

July 3

Isaiah 13,14, 21

Day of the Lord

- Sometimes refers to a day of judgment when God brings his punishment against an individual, a city, or a nation.
- Sometimes refers to THE day of judgment that will fall on the whole earth at the end of the age.
- In Isaiah 13, it's referring to the former.
- "The stars of heaven and their constellations will not show their light. The rising sun..."
 - Likely using figurative language – referring to the darkening of the sky when the city is set on fire in the heat of battle – smoke blackening out the sky.
 - Other option is that he is referring to the second coming of Christ. Scholars disagree.

Timing of Isaiah's Prophecy

- Isaiah began his ministry in 740 BC – the year King Uzziah died.
 - In 700 BC, Babylon was not a world power. It was a third rate vassal state struggling for its very existence.
 - But Isaiah sees it as towing over other nations – "The glory of the kingdoms."
- Judah wasn't even worried about Babylon in Isaiah's day. They didn't even rate a mention in the briefings that King Hezekiah's military advisers were about to give him.
- Everyone is worried about Assyria – not thinking about Babylon as the bully on the block. It would be like someone referring to Canada as a world super power! What, are they going to take over the world sticking people to the ground with maple syrup and beating them with hockey sticks? (Sorry Canadian... it's just fun to poke fun...)
- Additionally, in Isaiah's day, the nation of Media (Medes) were allies of Babylon. But here Isaiah calls them the conquerors of Babylon!
- While Isaiah is writing all of this in 700 BC, the events he describes were fulfilled in 539 BC when Cyrus marched his troop through the gates of Babylon and conquered her.
- Isaiah's prophecies were fulfilled in great detail hundreds of years later.

God's Word is True!

- Every Word of God's Word is true.
- The accurate fulfillment of prophecy should strengthen our faith!
- When Jesus says, "I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." We can count on it.

I hope that Project 44 is strengthening your faith and your hope in the promised future grace of God!