

The Prophets & Kings

From Rehoboam To Zedekiah

Book 1

A Daily Devotional Study Guide

Week 51

“No Leftovers”

Study: Jeremiah 49:1-11

Reading: James 4:13-17, Proverbs 3:1-12

Memory: Isaiah 40:15

When I first started deer hunting, it was legal to use deer bait. My wife’s grandparents owned a farm where they harvested corn for cow feed and they also had several apple trees in their back yard. I would often go to the farm to pick the apples that had fallen to the ground and to also scoop up the corn that had spilled when they were loading it into the silo. Most of the time there was an abundance of these leftovers, but some years, there were few apples on the trees so I didn’t have many to pick up. Other years, they were very neat when loading the silos and there was little corn to pick up.

Today, we are going to see how God was not going to leave any leftovers when it came to His judgment of Edom. Both Ammon and Edom would be judged by God for different things which they had done.

What Does the Bible Say?

Ammon was located to the east of Israel, just above the territory of Moab. They had invaded the land of the tribe of Gad and had taken over the cities from the people of Gad so their descendants no longer had a place to call their own. Because of this ill treatment towards the children of Israel, there was coming a day when God would send warriors to fight against the cities of Ammon. They would be destroyed and left to be like mounds in the desert. The young women of Ammon were told to put on sackcloth and to hide in the hedges because of this destruction. Most likely this was picturing the destruction of the young men they would marry and the fact that the enemy soldiers would seek to have their way with the young women of the land. Their god Molech (translated Milcom in the ESV) would not be able to stop this invasion but would be taken away with all the priests and officials of the land (vs 1-3).

They had boasted in the produce of their lush valleys and trusted in their treasures thinking they had the ability to withstand invading armies. God was going to cause great terror among them and drive them out of the land. The people left alive would be captured or scattered and the

nation would be no more (vs 4-5).

Yet, as with Moab, God had a plan to one day restore the Ammonites to the land. This appears to be a reference to the events that will happen in the millennial kingdom (vs 6).

In verse 7, Jeremiah moved on to the predictions of judgement towards Edom, which was located just south of Moab. This declaration of judgement begins with questions concerning the absence of wisdom in the land. This lack of wisdom would result in an invasion that would cause the people to flee and great calamity to come upon these descendants of Esau. God illustrated His judgement by describing how thieves or grape gatherers would not take everything. God was not going to be like that, but instead was going to strip them of all they had. They would not be able to hide and would be destroyed. Few would be left alive and those who remained would be some children and widows (vs 7-11).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Each of the nations that God declared judgement on were judged for different things. The people of Ammon were going to be judged because of the way they kicked the people of Gad out of their own houses and took those things for themselves. Basically, they were being judged for their selfishness and not considering the needs and desires of others. This is similar to one of the things that Israel was judged for. The wealthy in Israel kicked the poor out of their homes and would take their possessions for their own gain. The lesson from this is to realize the importance of caring for those in need around you rather than despising them or taking advantage of them.

The rebuke towards Edom was that they chose to stray from the wisdom they once had. They started making foolish choices and had fallen away from the principles that had helped make them a great nation. From this, you can be reminded of the importance of seeking after wisdom when making decisions and choices. It is easy to rely on your feelings and only what you see in your immediate situation when choosing your path. Scripture is full of references that remind you to look to God and seek His wisdom and direction for your life.

Suggestions for Prayer

* *Ask God to help you live in love and wisdom.*

What had Ammon done to the tribe of Gad (vs 1)?

What days were coming for Ammon (vs 2)?

What was going to happen to the cities (vs 2)?

Why was God going to do this (vs 2)?

What were the daughters of Ammon told to do (vs 3)?

What was going to happen to the leaders of Ammon (vs 3)?

What did they boast in (vs 4)?

Why do you think they were called a “faithless daughter” (vs 4)?

What did they think in their minds (vs 4)?

What was God going to bring to the people (vs 5)?

How complete was this judgement going to be (vs 5)?

What would God do one day (vs 6)?

What questions did God ask about Edom in verse 7?

What were the people told to do (vs 8)? Why?

What two illustrations were used in verse 9?

What point was God making (vs 9-10)?

What do you think it means that they would no longer be able to “conceal” themselves (vs 10-ESV)?

Who was going to be left in the land (vs 11)?

Why do you think God gives passages about judgment like this one?

“Lifted Up, Brought Low”

Study: Jeremiah 49:12-22

Reading: Proverbs 16:1-19, James 4:1-12

Memory: Isaiah 40:15



A palace tomb carved in the rock at Petra

Isaiah 40:15 What Does the Bible Say?

God revealed to Edom that they must be punished because there were some people who had to suffer punishment who didn't deserve it. Basically God was saying that He could not spare Edom from judgement because they were completely deserving of judgement. Bozrah was probably the capital city of Edom and God declared that the city would become a horror and a waste. This lead city and all the cities of Edom would be destroyed (vs 12-13).

Verse 14 pictures a call going out to the enemies of Edom calling them to join together to do battle against her. The nation would be destroyed and would be looked down upon. They had attempted to rule

by fear and the success they experienced by using this tactic caused their hearts to swell with pride. They were described as living in the clefts of rocks or a rock fortress. This is most likely a reference to cities like Petra. The Edomites mastered the ability to use the terrain as a natural defense mechanism which caused them to think that it would be difficult for them to be conquered. No city or place was too great to be beyond the reach of God when He chose to act. God was going to bring them down from the lofty position they had placed themselves in (vs 14-16).

Edom was on a major trade route and those who passed through the land were once amazed at their greatness. After this destruction, the people would pass through amazed at the destruction. Some of the land would become like Sodom and Gomorrah which was transformed from a well watered area into a desolate area where no one desired to live. Like a lion attacking a flock of sheep, the Babylonians would attack Edom and no one would be able to stop the attack. No one would be spared from this destruction, not even the young children as they would be taken away into captivity. The sound of the weeping of the land would be heard from a far distance. Similarly to what was told to Moab, God described how the attack would be like an eagle spreading its wings covering the whole land. The great speed and flurry of the Babylonian army would cause the soldiers to be like a woman who was in great pain during the labor process (vs 17-22).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Though it is easy to get weary of reading about death and destruction in the prophets, it is important not to overlook why these places were being destroyed. We are told that the Edomites inspired horror in the hearts of others giving the indication that they were ruthless in the way they dealt with others. We are also told that they took great pride in their abilities to use their natural surroundings and built amazing fortresses out of the rocks in the land. They took great pride in what they were able to build and exalted themselves thinking that they were the ones responsible for their great success. These attitudes are the same attitudes that are common in the thinking of men today. Yes, the circumstances may be slightly different, but the heart attitude is often the same. You can have the same type of attitude in your life if you are not careful because this type of thinking is prevalent in the world around you. Scriptures like this one are given to help you continually watch your life and the subtle ways of the world that can slowly creep in.

What does verse 12 indicate about the judgment of God (vs 12)?

****This is interesting to note because there are times where many innocent people are harmed as the result of bad choices.*

Why did God say that Edom would not go unpunished (vs 12)?

What was going to happen to Bozrah (vs 13)?

Why do you think such descriptive words were used in foetelling the end result of the city (vs 13)?

What was sent out among the nations (vs 14)?

****This was probably not referring to an actual call, but pictured a call going out indicating that there would be a large army that would come against the city.*

What was God going to cause to happen to Edom (vs 15)?

Why was this judgement going to come to them (vs 16)?

What did the people of Edom think about their power and safety (vs 16)?

How bad will this destruction be (vs 17-18)?

What illustration was used to describe Babylon and the Edomites (vs 19)?

What point did God make clear at the end of verse 19?

What was going to be the reaction for the fate of Edom (vs 20)?

How is the shock of Edom's destruction described (vs 21)?

Why was the illustration about the eagle given (vs 22)?

What would happen to the hearts of the great Edomite warriors (vs 22)?

What does this reveal about the power of God?

“Place Your Trust In God”

Study: Jeremiah 49:23-39

Reading: Psalm 37:1-17

Memory: Isaiah 40:15

In 1955 a bill was passed into law requiring “In God We Trust” to be placed on the currency of the United States. The motto had appeared on some coins after the civil war, but did not officially appear on dollar bills until 1957. The original purpose for including this phrase on money was to be a daily reminder for people to choose to trust in God rather than in money. It was to help remind people that it was God who helped make America to be a great nation. Though that motto is still printed on currency today, there is very little evidence that our nation places its trust in God.

What Does the Bible Say?

Damascus was a city located to the north of Israel in the land of Syria. Regions were often described by their main city, especially if that city was much larger than the other cities in the region. We know that judgment was on the whole country because other cities like Hamath and Arpad are mentioned. The whole land of Syria would be overtaken by the Babylonians and many in the cities would flee in great fear and panic. The great and powerful city of Damascus would fall and many of the soldiers would be killed. The city would be destroyed by fire and with the destruction would extend to the palaces of Ben-Hadad. Ben-Hadad was a general name for the family of the kings of Syria. Many wicked choices and decisions to hurt the nation of Israel had been made in those palaces over the years (vs 23-27).

The next judgements were directed towards the region of Kedar. Kedar was an Ishmaelite tribe located in the Arabian desert east of Israel. Hazor could have been the name of the kingly line or reference to the land. (This is not the same Hazor that was in the northern part of Israel.) They were a nomadic group of people since we are told their flocks and tents would be captured. We are also told they lived in places without gates or walls. They would be forced to run for their lives and hide in caves because Nebuchadnezzar was out to destroy them. The people

would be scattered and many of their animals would either be slaughtered or taken captive to be used by the Babylonians. That land was desolate to begin with, but would become a far more desolate place (vs 28-33).

The message recorded in verses 34-39 took place around 597 B.C., during the first year of the reign of Zedekiah. Though we are trying to be as chronological as possible in this study, I will include it here because it fits into the theme of judgement that these many chapters are about. Elam was a country east of Babylon which would have been in modern day Iran. They were known for their great archers, but these archers would be no match for the Babylonians. The people would be scattered from their lands to countries all over the world (vs 34-36).

Verses 37-39 seem to take on an eschatological theme as God declared that He would be directly responsible for the destruction of Elam. He would also raise up the enemies of Elam to destroy the nation completely. He would remove the leaders of the land and set up His own government to rule over the region. As with a few other nations, it is mentioned that one day God would restore Elam to be a powerful region. Many different opinions have been given about this passage, but we are simply limited by what is said in the passage. What we can be sure of is that God has great plans for this region in His future kingdom (vs 37-39).

How Does this Apply to Me?

What can you learn from all these verses about destruction? All of the prophecies of destruction were catered to the condition and mental thinking of each of the nations that were going to be destroyed. An overarching theme in all of this is that God is greater than the prized possessions or prized defenses of each land. For instance, the people of Kedar thought that they would be safe because they lived in the desert and traveled around. They thought this was a much greater defense than having walled cities, but it was not enough to stop the armies of Nebuchadnezzar from chasing them down and destroying them. The fact is that each nation had something they trusted in. God was revealing that their trust was in the wrong place and that He was the only one who could truly be trusted.

Thought for the day

Where was Damascus located (vs 23)?

How did the news of Nebuchadnezzar's army affect them (vs 23)?

What was going to happen to the people of Damascus (vs 24)?

What was the city known for before this destruction (vs 25)?

What was going to happen to the armies of Damascus (vs 26)?

What will happen to the great palaces (vs 27)?

Who was Nebuchadnezzar going to attack (vs 28)?

How was this directed by God (vs 28)?

What was going to be destroyed (vs 29)?

What was this going to do to the minds and hearts of the people (vs 29)?

What was going to happen to the people (vs 30)?

How were the people of Kedar described (vs 31)?

****Since this was a nomadic tribe in desert lands, they were seldom attacked by others which caused them to live a life without much worry of foreign invasion.*

What was going to happen to their animals and land (vs 32-33)?

What was going to happen to Elam (vs 34-35)?

Where would they be scattered to (vs 36)?

Why do you think the term "I" is mentioned many times in this prophecy of destruction (vs 36-38)?

What do you think verse 38 meant?

“God Is Supreme”

Study: Jeremiah 50:1-16

Reading: Psalm 20:1-9, 1 Peter 1:13-25

Memory: Isaiah 40:15

When my wife and I first started dating, we would occasionally play tennis together. She had taken a tennis class in college and felt she was pretty good, but I was a better player than she was. Instead of crushing her, I would often toy with her and let her think she had a chance to win before coming on strong in the end and beating her. This frustrated her. She would rather have me defeat her soundly than give her the hope that she may win, only to crush her dreams.

Today, we are going to see how God had given the Babylonians great victory causing them to think they were the champions of the world, only to find out that they weren't as powerful as they thought when God crushed their nation.

What Does the Bible Say?

The Babylonians were going to fulfill God's plan for judgement on Israel and the surrounding nations, but this did not mean that they would be exempt from His judgement. Chapters 50 and 51 speak of this judgement on the land of the Chaldeans and the city of Babylon. The prophecy given was not something that was supposed to be hidden, but given for all to hear. The false gods that the Babylonians trusted in would prove themselves to be powerless. Just as the Babylonians would come from the north and defeat the nations to the south, a nation from the north will come. Their land would be decimated (vs 1-3).

God was going to remove Babylon from the scene to make a way for the children to Israel to return to their land. The people of Israel would recognize their sin and what caused the destruction. They will join together in repentance and will receive restoration. The Israelites were compared to lost sheep whose shepherds had abandoned them. They did know how to get back to the sheepfold. This left them susceptible to the attacks of the enemies who devoured them. The enemies felt they were doing nothing wrong since they were just carrying out the judgement of the Lord (vs 4-7).

Once Babylon was defeated, they could return to their home. God wanted them to return and reestablish the nation. This was all part of God's plan as He was uniting the Medes and the Persians together to attack and capture Babylon. These attackers would not loose because God was on their side. They would loot Babylon of its great wealth and would destroy the great city (vs 8-10).

When Babylon was originally victorious over Israel they rejoiced. God compared them to calves playing around in a meadow and neighing stallions. It appears that they felt the conquest was easy and they had no cares or concerns because of what they were able to do. Yet, this rejoicing in their victories would only last for a short period of time since their nation would be short lived. They were going to take a huge fall from being the most powerful nation in the world, to being decimated and becoming one of the weakest group of people. This was all going to be a result of God's judgement upon them (vs 11-13).

A nation will be called by God to attack Babylon and to thoroughly destroy the city. They were to attack from every side and force the nation into submission. They were to break down the walls, leaving the city in disgrace, revealing God's vengeance on the city. Those who had either moved to Babylon for financial reasons, or were taken there by the Babylonians would leave the land because there was nothing left there for them (vs 14-16).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Just because God used the Babylonians, that didn't mean that He approved of their actions and methods. In an interesting contrast, the Persian empire that defeated the Babylonians supported the Israelites and actually gave them money to help rebuild the land. Though eventually they were conquered by the Greeks, their rule as a world power was much longer than the Babylonian reign. One thing that is powerfully clear from this passage is that God is the master of the universe. The Babylonians thought it was their power and greatness that allowed them to be victorious. They acted as if they could not be conquered, yet it didn't take long for them to fall and be destroyed. This helps us see that earthly power and earthly greatness can be gone in an instant. The only One that can truly be trusted is God. The only thing that can truly be counted on is the Word of God. The power and wisdom of men will fail, no matter how great it may seem, but God's Word will always be accomplished.

Who was this prophecy directed towards (vs 1)?

Who was Jeremiah to tell about this predicted destruction (vs 2)?

Who was going to attack Babylon (vs 3)?

What will God do for Israel when Babylon is attacked (vs 4)?

How will the Israelites be different (vs 5)?

How did God describe the Israelite nation (vs 6)?

What did the Babylonians think about their destruction of Israel (vs 7)?

What did God instruct for the Israelites to do once Babylon was captured (vs 8)?

How was God in control of what was happening (vs 9)?

How severe will the attack on Babylon be (vs 10)?

What was the attitude of the Babylonians after they defeated the nations around them (vs 11)?

How were the tables going to be turned on the Babylonians (vs 12)?

Why was this all going to happen (vs 13)?

Why did God call for the armies to attack Babylon (vs 14)?

Why is vengeance mentioned in verse 15?

How was Babylon going to be treated (vs 16)?

Who was no longer going to be needed in the Babylonian region (vs 16)?

What was going to happen to the people who had moved to or been taken by Babylon (vs 16)?

“Giving God Credit”

Study: Jeremiah 50:17-32

Reading: Job 40:6-24

Memory: Isaiah 40:15

We have many visitors that come to the property God has blessed. Jen and I with and we will often hear comments like, “You have a great piece of property.” I always want my response to be, “Yes, God has blessed us.” I find it very important to give God the credit because He is the one who has given us the finances we needed to purchase and build, and He has also given us the power needed to build all that we have.

Today, we are going to see how important it is to give God the credit for all He allows us to do.

What Does the Bible Say?

The nation of Israel was compared to sheep that had been scattered by lions. This started when the Assyrians conquered the northern tribes, forcing many to flee and transporting many others to foreign lands. A little over 100 years later, Nebuchadnezzar was going to do much of the same to the southern tribes of Judah. Assyria had already been punished for their actions and God was going to punish the Babylonians in a similar manner. God had full plans to bring the Israelites back home where they would once again be a nation. The area of Carmel referred to a mountain range in the north western part of the land and the area of Bashan referred to the plains that were located to the east of the Sea of Galilee. The hills of Ephraim were located just to the north of Jerusalem and were like a backbone running down the middle of Israel, while the land of Gilead was located on the east side of the Jordan river. Verse 20 described how their would not be sin found in Israel in “those days.” It is unclear if this is a reference to the millennial reign where there is perfection in the land, or simply that it was a reference to the return from captivity where they would receive forgiveness for all their sins. It most likely applies to both. They were going to be forgiven and allowed to return to the land 70 years after captivity. There is also many references to the continual righteous nation that will exist throughout the millennial

reign of Christ (vs 17-20).

The reference to Merathaim and Pekod appear to be references to regions of Babylon. There would one day be a battle in the Babylonian nation which would result in complete destruction. Babylon would fall from its position as an exalted nation and would become a “horror among the nations” (vs 21-23).

This was all going to happen because it was part of God’s plan. This was illustrated by God describing how he had set a trap for Babylon and they were caught in that trap. The reason He did this is because they opposed Him. God went to His store of weapons and chose to use the most powerful weapons on the Babylonian nation. The enemy would come from every direction and break open the store houses that the Babylonians trusted in. They would harvest the nation and pile up the rubble like one would harvest a field and pile up the grain. Their animals would be slaughtered and most of their food sources would be depleted. This would all come as a punishment from God. It would be God’s vengeance upon them for how they treated His holy temple (vs 24-28).

The call went out for archers to surround the city of Babylon and for walls to be placed around the city to keep any of those inside from escaping the wrath of God. The nation was going to pay for how they treated others and how they had defied God. The strongest of them would not be able to survive and there would be few left alive from this great destruction. God specifically was going to judge them for their pride. They thought they were the reason for their great victories not realizing that anything they had achieved was because of God’s power and leading (vs 29-32).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Scripture makes it very clear in many places that God opposes the proud. James 4:6 says, “But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’” This passage emphasized two main things that Babylon was going to be judged for. How they treated others and how they treated God. They treated others with disdain and great humiliation. Doing whatever they wanted to the people, they conquered without mercy. They thought that their victories were because of their own power and they rejected the idea that God was the One who was in control. From this you can see that God cares a great deal about how you treat others and also cares a great deal about the attitude you have towards the blessings that He gives.

What had the Assyrians done to Israel (vs 17)?

What did Nebuchadnezzar do to Judah (vs 17)?

What was God going to bring (vs 18)?

How could they know this was going to happen (vs 18)?

What was God going to do for Israel (vs 19)?

What was going to happen “in those day” (vs 20)?

What did God command (vs 21)?

What would Babylon become (vs 23)?

Why do you think God is described as setting a trap (vs 24)?

Why did God make reference to opening his armory (vs 25)?

What did God compare the destruction of the Babylonians to (vs 26)?

Why was the killing of bulls significant (vs 27)?

Why was God going to do this (vs 28)?

How was Babylon going to be repaid (vs 29)?

How did pride play a big role in this (vs 29)?

Why are “young men” and “soldiers” mentioned in verse 30?

Why was God against them (vs 31)?

What day was going to come (vs 31)?

What was going to happen to the proud (vs 32)?

How was God’s judgement illustrated (vs 32)?

“The Plans of Men”

Study: Jeremiah 50:33-46

Reading: James 4:13-17, Proverbs 19:20-29

Memory: Isaiah 40:15

One of the sports that I enjoy watching the most is football. Football is quite unique compared to many other sports. One of these areas is how plays are drawn up. There are many sports which have set plays that they run, but nothing like football where each play is scripted and how the coaches put a master plan together. Since they only have one game a week, they spend hours and hours planning out every play and try to prepare for every scenario. Yet, with all this planning and preparation, the game seldom goes exactly as the coaches planned.

Today, we are going to see that we as humans can do our best to prepare for every scenario or plan out our lives, but ultimately we are not the ones who are in control.

What Does the Bible Say?

There were multiple reasons given for the destruction of Babylon, but one of the greatest was that God wanted to release the children of Israel from captivity. The northern tribes of Israel and southern tribes of Judah would be removed from the land and oppressed by their captors. Though the nations where they were living would not want to let them go, God was their Redeemer and was more powerful than these nations. He would stand up for their cause and give rest to them and many of the other nations that had been conquered. He would do this by causing unrest and chaos among the Babylonians (vs 33-34).

Verses 35-38 describe how the sword of judgement would come against the Babylonian leaders, their wise men, their armies, and all the inhabitants of the land. Even the strongest of warriors would be rendered as weak and the riches of the land would be plundered. The land itself would rise up against the Babylonians as the rivers would start to run dry, leaving them with drought and starvation (vs 35-38).

The end result will be a land full of wild beasts and devoid of people. Part of the judgment was also that the land would be left empty and

would become like Sodom and Gomorrah. This is an interesting prophecy because the city was destroyed, but there are still residents who live on top of the ancient ruins and history records that people have continually lived in that region. The full fulfillment of this prophecy must still be to come (vs 39-40).

The enemies of Babylon are pictured very similar to the nation of Babylon as they are described as coming from the north with fierce and cruel warriors. It appears this was done to show that they would be destroyed in the same way they destroyed many of the other nations. When the report of this encroaching army would reach the king of Babylon it would cause his heart to faint and for him to be completely helpless because of the terror that was about to come upon him and his kingdom. They were compared to a lion that was coming upon a known pasture full of sheep. God had appointed Babylon to bring judgement to Israel and others, and now God had appointed the Persians to bring judgment on the Babylonians. God declared that this was all His doing and that no one could stop Him. The fall of the Babylonians would be swift and great. The Babylonians would be shocked at their fate and the nations around them would be amazed at their great fall (vs 41-46).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Why do you think that God takes so much time and repeats Himself over and over when it comes to what was going to happen in the future? One of the main reasons was that God wanted all men to understand that He was the One who was fully in control. Though men may make plans and build their armies and wealth, their success will not happen apart from God. God had a plan for the Babylonians and for the Persians. We will eventually read in other prophetic books how God had a plan for the Greeks and Romans and ultimately a plan for His church. He has a plan for the end times as well. This should all help you realize that He also has a plan for your life today. Understanding the great sovereignty of God can help you live in peace and assurance that He is in control of this world.

Thought for the day

What did God know was going to happen to the people of Israel (vs 33)?

What did their captors refuse to do (vs 33)?

What did God call Himself (vs 34)?

What would God do for them (vs 34)?

List those who were going to experience this judgement of God (vs 35-37)?

What else was going to suffer as a result of this judgement (vs 38)?

What was going to take over the land (vs 39)?

What would the nation of Babylon become like (vs 40)?

Where were the enemies of Babylon going to come from (vs 41)?

How does this sound very similar to the prediction of judgement against Israel and the nations surrounding Israel (vs 41-42)?

How was the king of Babylon going to react when hearing about the great Persian army and their attack (vs 43)?

How did God reveal that He was in control (vs 44)?

Why do you think God wanted to emphasize that all the events were part of His plan (vs 45)?

What was going to happen to the children of Babylon (vs 45)?

How would the world react to this conquest (vs 46)?

Memory Verses

Isaiah 40:1 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. 3 A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God? 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. 5 Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. The LORD has spoken!" 6 A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. 9 Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" 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. 11 He will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will carry the lambs in his arms, holding them close to his heart. He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young. 12 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? 13 Who has measured the Spirit of the LORD, or what man shows him his counsel? 14 Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? 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.