

# **I**saiah Ch. 8, Whom Shall You Fear?

*It is the Lord of Hosts whom you should regard as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. He will become a sanctuary. Is. 8:13-14*

- Last week's lesson, from Is. 7:9; *If you do not stand firm in the faith, you shall not stand at all.*
  - Ahaz, the king of Judah, fearing the combined threat from the Northern Kingdom of Israel allied with Syria, sought to strike a deal with the Assyrians for protection.
  - Isaiah was sent by God to advise Ahaz not to bargain with the Assyrians, but to stand firm in faith, and to ask for a sign from God that he would protect them from any threat.
  - Ahaz, in an attempt to look as if he was refusing to "tempt" God, denied Isaiah's offer, and continued with what he thought was a safer course of action.
  - Isaiah then describes the real threat, Assyria, the "River," and details the destruction that will be brought in the long run as the result of a short-term solution.
- **Ch. 8**
  - **V. 1-8:** The real threat, the results of not trusting God.
    - Negotiating with a scorpion.  
Paying for protection (tribute.)  
Israel and Syria. \_\_\_\_\_
    - Bargaining with scorpions  
A familiar warning. Deut. 31:18
    - Economy vs. Virtue. Chamberlain and Churchill. \_\_\_\_\_
  - **V. 9-10:** "Go ahead without me."
    - Fair weather followers and rainy day believers.
    - Turning our back on the real enemy.
  - **V. 11-18:** Save for Last (really)!
  - **V. 19-22:** Continuing the delusion of self-determination.
    - The "strategy" of seeking wisdom from illusions.
    - Looking for comic book heroes.

- **Now, V. 9-18: The Solitary Walk.**
  - Conspiratorial thinking
    - In secular life. \_\_\_\_\_
    - In church life. \_\_\_\_\_
      - Keeps us from fellowship.
      - Keeps us from The Mission.
  - The problem of fear and dread.
    - It is natural to human behavior. \_\_\_\_\_
    - It isolates us. \_\_\_\_\_
    - It insulates us. \_\_\_\_\_
  - **The Fear of the Lord.**
    - Becoming aware of the fact that all enemies are impotent (powerless) in the face of our God.  
Is. 54:17. \_\_\_\_\_
    - Recognizing that the protection and power of God is available in our lives.  
V.13. If we regard (real faith) God as the only one with any true power.
    - **But**, the paradox here is that, in our lives, we must first be broken and shattered, then rescued and redeemed.
      - **We don't get to keep our old selves.**
- Even as Christians, we will be relegated to impotent, fearful lives until we surrender all that we were, and probably still are, to the only power worthy of our dread.
- Closing thought: Pride may be the first and greatest of all sins, but C.S. Lewis, in The Great Divorce, illustrated the concept that the most prevalent sin we hold on to is that of resentment, reflected outwardly in bitterness and envy.

# **I** saiah Ch. 8, Whom Shall You Fear?

*It is the Lord of Hosts whom you should regard as holy.*

*Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. He will become a sanctuary. Is. 8:13-14*

- Last week's lesson, from Is. 7:9; *If you do not stand firm in the faith, you shall not stand at all.*
  - Ahaz, the king of Judah, fearing the combined threat from the Northern Kingdom of Israel allied with Syria, sought to strike a deal with the Assyrians for protection.
  - Isaiah was sent by God to advise Ahaz not to bargain with the Assyrians, but to stand firm in faith, and to ask for a sign from God that he would protect them from any threat.
  - Ahaz, in an attempt to look as if he was refusing to "tempt" God, denied Isaiah's offer, and continued with what he thought was a safer course of action.
  - Isaiah then describes the real threat, Assyria, the "River," and details the destruction that will be brought in the long run as the result of a short-term solution.
- **Ch. 8**
  - **V. 1-8:** The real threat, the results of \_\_\_\_\_ trusting God.
    - Negotiating with a scorpion.  
\_\_\_\_\_ for protection (tribute.)  
Israel and Syria. \_\_\_\_\_
    - Bargaining with scorpions  
A \_\_\_\_\_ warning. Deut. 31:18
    - Economy vs. \_\_\_\_\_. Chamberlain and Churchill. \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - **V. 9-10:** "Go ahead without me."
    - \_\_\_\_\_ followers and  
\_\_\_\_\_ believers.
    - Turning our back on the \_\_\_\_\_ enemy.
  - **V. 11-18:** Save for Last (really)!
  - **V. 19-22:** Continuing the delusion of self-determination.
    - The "strategy" of seeking \_\_\_\_\_ from illusions.

- Looking for \_\_\_\_\_ heroes.
- **Now, V. 9-18: The Solitary Walk.**
  - Conspiratorial thinking
    - In secular life. \_\_\_\_\_
    - In church life. \_\_\_\_\_
      - Keeps us from \_\_\_\_\_.
      - Keeps us from \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The problem of fear and dread.
    - It is \_\_\_\_\_ to human behavior. \_\_\_\_\_
    - It \_\_\_\_\_ us. \_\_\_\_\_
    - It \_\_\_\_\_ us. \_\_\_\_\_
  - **The Fear of the Lord.**
    - Becoming aware of the fact that \_\_\_\_\_ enemies are impotent (powerless) in the face of our God.  
Is. 54:17. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
    - Recognizing that the protection and power of God is available in our lives.  
V.13. If we \_\_\_\_\_ (real faith) God as the only one with any true power.
    - **But**, the paradox here is that, in our lives, we must first be \_\_\_\_\_, then . . .  
\_\_\_\_\_.
    - **We don't get to keep our old selves.**
- Even as Christians, we will be relegated to impotent, fearful lives until we \_\_\_\_\_ all that we were, and probably still are, to the only power worthy of our dread.
- Closing thought: Pride may be the first and greatest of all sins, but C.S. Lewis, in The Great Divorce, illustrated the concept that the most prevalent sin we hold on to is that of resentment, reflected outwardly in bitterness and envy.