

THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

THE GOD OF OUR SALVATION

ISAIAH CHAPTER 17:1-14

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER WN-655 JANUARY 13, 2016

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“OUR GREATEST THREAT TODAY”

Discovering the Salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ Through The Grace of God

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Jordan, Israel, Judgment,

Introduction to the Text;

Isaiah 17:1-14

Developing the Background between Israel and Damascus

Many Bible prophecy teachers have long thought this passage in Isaiah involved an end-time war between Israel and Syria. However, they disagree over the timing as well as the key actors. In addition, the dispensationalists play down the obvious impact the war will have on Israel. Instead they focus on the destruction of Syria from verses 1 and 3,

1 Behold Damascus will cease to be a city and will become a heap of ruins...3 and the kingdom (will disappear) from Damascus and the remnant of Syria like the glory of the children of Israel.

The Hebrew word for "heap" is to make a pile of rubbish and is the same word in Greek that Jesus used in describing the destruction of Herod's temple in Matthew 24 :1-3. That prediction came true in 70 A.D. when the Roman army destroyed the temple and the city of Jerusalem. Therefore, we can be sure the prophecy of Isaiah 17 will also come to pass. The reason this prophecy has not been fulfilled to date is that Damascus is one of the oldest cities in the world and has existed for millenniums and is the capital of Syria today.

Since there is no mention of Iran in this passage, but we know that Iran is confederate with Russia in the Gog and Magog war of Ezekiel 38 and 39, then perhaps Iran survives the war of Isaiah 17 which appears to be a sudden war and could be fulfilled prior to the battles noted in Ezekiel 38-39.

Isaiah 17:1-14

The burden against Damascus.

“Behold, Damascus will cease from being a city, And it will be a ruinous heap. 2 The cities of Aroer are forsaken; They will be for flocks Which lie down, and no one will make them afraid. **3** The fortress also will cease from Ephraim, The kingdom from Damascus, And the remnant of Syria; They will be as the glory of the children of Israel,” Says the LORD of hosts. **4** “In that day it shall come to pass That the glory of Jacob will wane, And the fatness of his flesh grow lean. **5** It shall be as when the harvester gathers the grain, And reaps the heads with his arm; It shall be as he who gathers heads of grain In the **Valley of Rephaim**. **6** Yet gleaning grapes will be left in it, Like the shaking of an olive tree, Two or three olives at the top of the uppermost bough, Four or five in its most fruitful branches,” **Says the LORD God of Israel. 7** In that day a man will look to his Maker, And his eyes will have respect for **the Holy One of Israel. 8** He will not look to the altars, The work of his hands; He will not respect what his fingers have made, Nor the wooden images nor the incense altars. **9 In that day his strong cities will be as a forsaken bough and an uppermost branch, Which they left because of the children of Israel; And there will be desolation. 10** **Because you have forgotten the God of your salvation, And have not been mindful of the Rock of your stronghold,** Therefore you will plant pleasant plants And set out foreign seedlings; **11** In the day you will make your plant to grow, And in the morning you will make your seed to flourish; But the harvest will be a heap of ruins In the day of grief and desperate sorrow. **12** Woe to the multitude of many people Who make a noise like the roar of the seas, And to the rushing of nations That make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters! **13** The nations will rush like the rushing of many waters; But God will rebuke them and they will flee far away, And be chased like the chaff of the mountains before the wind, Like a rolling thing before the whirlwind. **14** Then behold, at eventide, trouble! And before the morning, he is no more. This is the portion of those who plunder us, And the lot of those who rob us.

Have you ever noticed that in the Bible

Just how much of it is dedicated to **reminding us** of what it says.

2 Peter 1:12-13

For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. **13** Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you,

Jude 1:5

But I want to remind you, though you once knew this,

We Need His Help to Remember !

John 14:26

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

A motivation for us to remember

Romans 15:4

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

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,

OUR GREATEST THREAT TODAY

1.) It's time to remember what God has done for you v.10a

10 **Because** you have **FORGOTTEN**

**We can become guilty of forgetting God's work of salvation.
- Our Salvation for starters !!!**

Deuteronomy 6:12

then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery"

to "FORGET" is to let slip away or to let loose

Hebrews 2:1

Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, **lest we drift away.**

Forgetting God looks like;
Leaving God out of your **thoughts**.

Forgetting God looks like;
Leaving God out of your **actions**.

Forgetting God looks like;
Leaving God out of your **relationships**.

Forgetting God looks like;
Leaving God out of your **liberties**.

Forgetting God looks like;
Leaving God out of your **time**.

Forgetting God looks like;
Leaving God out of your **private time**.

OUR GREATEST THREAT TODAY

2.) It's time to remember what God has saved you from v. 10b

Because you have forgotten **THE GOD OF YOUR SALVATION**,

**Without a Healthy Infusion of Biblical Truth;
We're prone, we trend toward lies which cloud Truth.**

Jeremiah 13:25

This is your lot, the portion I have measured out to you, declares the Lord, because you have **forgotten me** and **trusted in lies**"

Lamentations 3:21-22 ESV

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope *(what is being called up?)* :**22** The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;* his mercies never come to an end;

Do you remember how other believers reminded themselves?

Psalm 42:1-6a

As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? 3 My tears have been my food day and night, While they continually say to me, "Where is your God?" 4 When I remember these things, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, With a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast. 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. 6a O my God, my soul is cast down within me; Therefore I will **remember** You

This is how you're to condition yourself to remember;

#1 – Get to the Word.

(to the word and to the testimony)

#2 - Seize it with a tenacity.

(the unjust judge and woman)

#3 – Go with it into the battle of life.

"king of kings and Lord of Lords"

What Could Happen if You Forget God?

Your life will become more and more difficult as you drift further away from Him.

Revelation 2:1-5

"To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: 2 "I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars; 3 and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary. 4 Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have **left your first love**. 5 **Remember** therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place - **unless you repent**."

OUR GREATEST THREAT TODAY

3.) It's time to remember what God is by Nature v. 10c

...mindful of the **Rock of your stronghold**,

mindful zakar, zaw-kar'; to mark or etch into the memory. to mention to yourself. to talk to yourself. to bring it up again and again.

**There's no Salvation anywhere else !
When we forget God – we begin to flirt with other "ideas"**

Hosea 2:13

I will punish her For the days of the Baals to which she burned incense. She decked herself with her earrings and jewelry, And went after her lovers; But Me she forgot," says the LORD.

1 Samuel 30:6 NLT

David was now in great danger because all his men were very bitter about losing their sons and daughters, and they began to talk of stoning him.

But David found strength in the LORD his God.

Psalm 18:1-3b

I will love You, O LORD, my **strength**. **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**. **3b** I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; So shall *I be saved...*

Psalm 62:2

He alone is my **Rock** and my **salvation**,
my **fortress** where *I will never be shaken.*

OUR GREATEST THREAT TODAY

4.) It's time to remember what God is about to do v. 10a

10 Because you have **forgotten** the God of your salvation,
And have not been mindful of the Rock of your stronghold,

When we forget God - - We absolutely miss out on what God is about to do next.

Hosea 13:6-9

But when you had eaten and were **satisfied**, you became **proud** and **forgot me**. 7 So now I will attack you like a lion, like a leopard that lurks along the road. 8 Like a bear whose cubs have been taken away, I will tear out your heart. I will devour you like a hungry lioness and mangle you like a wild animal. :9 “You are about to be destroyed, O Israel - yes, by me, your only helper.

Proverbs 23:5

Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away like an eagle toward heaven.

Tonights PowerBall

<http://www.nbc12.com/story/30948241/record-powerball-drawing-wednesday-15b-up-for-grabs>

Pray / Pray / Pray

_____ *End of Study* _____

Copyright © January 13, 2015 by Jack Hibbs