### Isaiah 6-39

God will rule over a new, perfect and eternal creation

# Ch 6-12

God will rule with goodness and power, replacing human kings

# Ch 13-27

God will destroy evil and dismantle this creation

### Ch 28-35

God will instantly reverse bad and sad situations to become happy and glad

### Ch 36-39

Human kings cannot enable long-term happiness

# Isaiah 19-21 (NIVUK)

**19** A prophecy against Egypt:

See, the LORD rides on a swift cloud

and is coming to Egypt.

The idols of Egypt tremble before him,

and the hearts of the Egyptians melt with fear.

<sup>2</sup> 'I will stir up Egyptian against Egyptian – brother will fight against brother, neighbour against neighbour, city against city, kingdom against kingdom.

<sup>3</sup> The Egyptians will lose heart,

and I will bring their plans to nothing;

they will consult the idols and the spirits of the dead,

the mediums and the spiritists.

<sup>4</sup> I will hand the Egyptians over to the power of a cruel master,

and a fierce king will rule over them,'

declares the Lord, the LORD Almighty.

<sup>5</sup> The waters of the river will dry up, and the river bed will be parched and dry.

<sup>6</sup> The canals will stink;

the streams of Egypt will dwindle and dry up.

The reeds and rushes will wither,

also the plants along the Nile, at the mouth of the river.

Every sown field along the Nile

will become parched, will blow away and be no more.

<sup>8</sup> The fishermen will groan and lament, all who cast hooks into the Nile; those who throw nets on the water will pine away.

<sup>9</sup> Those who work with combed flax will despair, the weavers of fine linen will lose hope.

<sup>10</sup> The workers in cloth will be dejected, and all the wage earners will be sick at heart.

<sup>11</sup> The officials of Zoan are nothing but fools; the wise counsellors of Pharaoh give senseless advice.

How can you say to Pharaoh,

'I am one of the wise men,

Sunday 19 October 2025

1. Egypt will be destroyed (19:1-25)

- God's physical presence (19:1)

- civil war (19:2-3)

- slavery (19:4)

- all life killed off (19:5-10)

- incompetent leaders (19:11-15)



<u>Isaiah 13-27</u>
God will destroy
evil and dismantle
this creation

13:1-14:23	14:24-27	14:28-32	15:1-16:14	17:1-14	18:1-7	19:1-25
Babylon	Assyria	Philistia	Moab	Israel-Syria	Cush	Egypt
will be	will be	will be	will be	will be	will be	will be
destroyed	destroyed	destroyed	destroyed	destroyed	destroyed	destroyed

a disciple of the ancient kings'?

- Where are your wise men now?Let them show you and make knownwhat the LORD Almighty has planned against Egypt.
- <sup>13</sup> The officials of Zoan have become fools, the leaders of Memphis are deceived; the cornerstones of her peoples have led Egypt astray.
- <sup>14</sup> The LORD has poured into them a spirit of dizziness; they make Egypt stagger in all that she does, as a drunkard staggers around in his vomit.
- <sup>15</sup> There is nothing Egypt can do head or tail, palm branch or reed.
- <sup>16</sup> In that day the Egyptians will become weaklings. They will shudder with fear at the uplifted hand that the LORD Almighty raises against them. <sup>17</sup> And the land of Judah will bring terror to the Egyptians; everyone to whom Judah is mentioned will be terrified, because of what the LORD Almighty is planning against them.
- <sup>18</sup> In that day five cities in Egypt will speak the language of Canaan and swear allegiance to the LORD Almighty. One of them will be called the City of the Sun.<sup>a</sup>
- <sup>19</sup> In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the heart of Egypt, and a monument to the LORD at its border. <sup>20</sup> It will be a sign and witness to the LORD Almighty in the land of Egypt. When they cry out to the LORD because of their oppressors, he will send them a saviour and defender, and he will rescue them. <sup>21</sup> So the LORD will make himself known to the Egyptians, and in that day they will acknowledge the LORD. They will worship with sacrifices and grain offerings; they will make vows to the LORD and keep them. <sup>22</sup> The LORD will strike Egypt with a plague; he will strike them and heal them. They will turn to the LORD, and he will respond to their pleas and heal them.
- <sup>23</sup> In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria. The Assyrians will go to Egypt and the Egyptians to Assyria. The Egyptians and Assyrians will worship together.

- ITD #1 (19:16-17)
  Egypt judged by God
  & scared of Judah
- ITD #2 (19:18)
   Egypt swears by God
   & speaks Judah's language
- ITD #3 (19:19-22)
  God treats Egypt like he did
  Israel in the Exodus

- <u>ITD #4</u> (19:23) Egypt & Assyria worship together

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Some manuscripts of MT, Dead Sea Scrolls, Symmachus and Vulgate; most manuscripts of MT City of Destruction

20:1-6 Egypt & Cush will be destroyed	21:1-17 Babylon will be destroyed	22:1-25 Judah will be destroyed	23:1-18 Tyre will be destroyed	24:1-23 The earth will be destroyed	25:1-26:6 Death will be destroyed	26:7-21 Suffering will be destroyed	27:1-13 Evil will be destroyed		For a 2-minute video that summarises Isaiah 13-27: youtu.be/32ctQxMqJbA
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<sup>24</sup> In that day Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing<sup>b</sup> on the earth. <sup>25</sup> The LORD Almighty will bless them, saying, 'Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance.'

- <u>ITD #5</u> (19:24-25) Egypt, Assyria & Israel all blessed by God together!

<u>20</u> In the year that the supreme commander, sent by Sargon king of Assyria, came to Ashdod and attacked and captured it -2 at that time the LORD spoke through Isaiah son of Amoz. He said to him, 'Take off the sackcloth from your body and the sandals from your feet.' And he did so, going around stripped and barefoot.

2. Egypt & Cush will be destroyed (20:1-6)

- cheeky life-art prophecy

<sup>3</sup> Then the LORD said, 'Just as my servant Isaiah has gone stripped and barefoot for three years, as a sign and portent against Egypt and Cush,' <sup>4</sup> so the king of Assyria will lead away stripped and barefoot the Egyptian captives and Cushite exiles, young and old, with buttocks bared – to Egypt's shame. <sup>5</sup> Those who trusted in Cush and boasted in Egypt will be dismayed and put to shame. <sup>6</sup> In that day the people who live on this coast will say, "See what has happened to those we relied on, those we fled to for help and deliverance from the king of Assyria! How then can we escape?""

cf. <u>Isaiah 28, 30, 31</u> When Assyria threatened Judah, they turned to Egypt

# **21** A prophecy against the Desert by the Sea:

Like whirlwinds sweeping through the southland, an invader comes from the desert, from a land of terror.

<sup>2</sup> A dire vision has been shown to me: the traitor betrays, the looter takes loot.

[God:] Elam, attack! Media, lay siege!

I will bring to an end all the groaning she caused.

[Isaiah:] <sup>3</sup> At this my body is racked with pain,

pangs seize me, like those of a woman in labour;

I am staggered by what I hear,

I am bewildered by what I see.

- <sup>4</sup> My heart falters, fear makes me tremble; the twilight I longed for has become a horror to me.
- <sup>5</sup> They set the tables, they spread the rugs, they eat, they drink!

# 3. Babylon will be destroyed (21:1-17)

- God's sinister threat (21:1-2)

- horror and terror (21:3-4)

- POV within Babylonian barrack/garrison (21:5-9)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Or Assyria, whose names will be used in blessings (see Gen. 48:20); or Assyria, who will be seen by others as blessed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> That is, the upper Nile region; also in v5

#### Isaiah 56-66 Isaiah 1-5 Isaiah 6-39 Isaiah 40-55 Introduction **New Creation** New relationship Who How can one be spared judgement God will rule over a new, God will restore his people from God will choose the humble and live happily ever after? perfect and eternal creation exile to a permanent relationship and reject the proud

Get up, you officers, oil the shields!

- <sup>6</sup> This is what the Lord says to me:
  - 'Go, post a lookout and let him report what he sees.
- <sup>7</sup> When he sees chariots with teams of horses, riders on donkeys or riders on camels, let him be alert, fully alert.'
- <sup>8</sup> And the lookout<sup>d</sup> shouted,
- 'Day after day, my lord, I stand on the watchtower; every night I stay at my post.
- <sup>9</sup> Look, here comes a man in a chariot with a team of horses.

And he gives back the answer:

"Babylon has fallen, has fallen!

All the images of its gods lie shattered on the ground!""

<sup>10</sup> My people who are crushed on the threshing-floor, I tell you what I have heard from the LORD Almighty, from the God of Israel.

- us wait in a different 11 A pr
  - <sup>11</sup> A prophecy against Dumah:<sup>e</sup>

Dumah is Ishmael's 6th son (Gen 25:14)

Someone calls to me from Seir,

'Watchman, what is left of the night?

Watchman, what is left of the night?"

The watchman replies,

'Morning is coming, but also the night.

If you would ask, then ask; and come back yet again.'

<sup>13</sup> A prophecy against Arabia:

You caravans of Dedanites,

Dedan is Ishmael's nephew (Gen 25:3)

- who camp in the thickets of Arabia,

  bring water for the thirsty:
  - bring water for the thirsty; you who live in Tema, bring food for the fugitives.
- <sup>15</sup> They flee from the sword, from the drawn sword, from the bent bow and from the heat of battle.
- <sup>16</sup> This is what the Lord says to me: 'Within one year, as a servant bound by contract would count it, all the splendour of Kedar will come to an end. <sup>17</sup> The survivors of the archers, the warriors of Kedar, will be few.' The LORD, the God of Israel, has spoken.

- All for the benefit of Judah (21:10)

- an anxious wait in a different part of Babylon (21:11-12)

- refugees flee (21:13-15)

Tema is Ishmael's 9<sup>th</sup> son (Gen 25:14)

- another part of Babylon will be swiftly destroyed (21:16-17)

Kedar is Ishmael's 2<sup>nd</sup> son (Gen 25:13)

Next Sunday (26 October):

- Isaiah 22-23
- Match day parking vouchers available

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> Dead Sea Scrolls and Syriac; Masoretic Text A lion

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup> Dumah, a word play on Edom, means silence or stillness.