

God's Judgment of Babylon:

A Picture of God's Judgment upon Evil Governments

Isaiah 14:01–23

1. *God's purpose for destroying Babylon: To deliver His people from captivity*

- a. God would have mercy:
Restore, give His people rest
in the promised land
- b. Foreigners would join Israel
- c. Nations would be God's agents
to free and return His people
to the promised land
- d. All nations would voluntarily
submit to Israel: A picture of
the Messiah's kingdom

2. *God's punishment of Babylon's king: A picture of Satan's fall (Lk. 10:15,18; Rev 12:9; Eze 28:11-19)*

- a. The king would be taunted:
By all who had been delivered
 - b. The oppressor's brutality
and rule would be ended
by the awesome power of God
- 1) God would break the rod
and rule of the wicked king
 - Due to his aggressive conquests
of nations
 - Due to his governing people
in brutality, not justice
 - 2) God would give rest
to the whole earth
 - The earth itself would sing

- 1 The LORD will have compassion on Jacob;
once again he will choose Israel
and will settle them in their own land.
Foreigners will join them
and unite with the descendants of Jacob.
- 2 Nations will take them and bring them
to their own place.
And Israel will take possession of the nations
and make them male and female servants
in the LORD's land.
They will make captives of their captors
and rule over their oppressors.
- 3 On the day the LORD gives you relief
from your suffering and turmoil
and from the harsh labour forced on you,
- 4 you will take up this taunt
against the king of Babylon:
How the oppressor has come to an end!
How his fury has ended!
- 5 The LORD has broken the rod of the wicked,
the sceptre of the rulers,
- 6 which in anger struck down peoples
with unceasing blows,
and in fury subdued nations
with relentless aggression.
- 7 All the lands are at rest and at peace;
they break into singing.

• The trees — a symbol of oppressed multitudes — would rejoice over the tyrant's fall 3) God would doom the wicked one to Sheol (the grave, hell) • The departed spirits who were awaiting judgment — especially other rulers — would become excited over his arrival in hell • The departed spirits would scoff at his fall and his doom to hell: In the end, he was as weak and as doomed as they were • The wicked ruler would lose his glory, wealth and power, and his beloved music: Maggots and worms would cover his body c. The fall of Lucifer, the morning star, from heaven, Lk. 10:15, 18; Jn. 3:8; Eze 28:11-19 1) His judgment: Had been cast from his exalted position 2) His sin: Pride — sought to ascend to heaven • To raise his throne above God's stars • To be the one worshipped on the sacred mountain (God's temple) • To exalt himself above the clouds, becoming like the Most High (God Himself) 3) His fate: Would be brought down to hell, the very pit of hell, to its lowest depths	8 Even the junipers and the cedars of Lebanon gloat over you and say, “Now that you have been laid low, no one comes to cut us down.” 9 The realm of the dead below is all astir to meet you at your coming; it rouses the spirits of the departed to greet you — all those who were leaders in the world; it makes them rise from their thrones — all those who were kings over the nations. 10 They will all respond, they will say to you, “You also have become weak, as we are; you have become like us.” 11 All your pomp has been brought down to the grave, along with the noise of your harps; maggots are spread out beneath you and worms cover you. 12 How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! 13 You said in your heart, “I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. 14 I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.” 15 But you are brought down to the realm of the dead, to the depths of the pit.
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4) His shameful end: People would gaze upon and mock him because of who he was • The one who had caused nations to tremble • The one who had devastated the world and its cities and enslaved its people 5) His dishonourable burial: His body would not lie in state like other kings • His body would be cast into a mass grave with slain soldiers — like a discarded branch • His body would be trampled underfoot because of his destructive and cruel nature 6) His offspring and their fate • Would not be mentioned again • Would be doomed because of their forefather's sins • Would not be allowed to inherit the land nor to build cities 7) His Babylonian empire: Would be utterly destroyed by God Himself: A picture of the evil world system • To have its name, survivors, children, and descendants cut off • To be a desolate place, a place for porcupines • To be a swamp • To be swept with the broom of destruction	16 Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: “Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble, 17 the man who made the world a wilderness, who overthrew its cities and would not let his captives go home?” 18 All the kings of the nations lie in state, each in his own tomb. 19 But you are cast out of your tomb like a rejected branch; you are covered with the slain, with those pierced by the sword, those who descend to the stones of the pit. Like a corpse trampled underfoot, 20 you will not join them in burial, for you have destroyed your land and killed your people. Let the offspring of the wicked never be mentioned again. 21 Prepare a place to slaughter his children for the sins of their ancestors; they are not to rise to inherit the land and cover the earth with their cities. 22 “I will rise up against them,” declares the LORD Almighty. “I will wipe out Babylon’s name and survivors, her offspring and descendants,” declares the LORD. 23 “I will turn her into a place for owls and into a swamp; I will sweep her with the broom of destruction,” declares the LORD Almighty.
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