

Lesson 12

Isaiah 30–32

Four Major Subjects Addressed

1. **God's indictment against His people**—we'll detail the charges He makes against His people.
2. **The folly of trusting in Egypt**—why it was such a bad idea, and how it worked out for them.
3. **The LORD's promise to bring Assyria down**—without the help of Egypt, or any help from man.
4. **Better times ahead**—some of which seem to point to the time of the Messiah.

God's Indictment Against His People

- “Rebellious” (30:1, 9; 31:6; see also 1:2, 23)
- “Take counsel, but not of Me...devise plans (“make an alliance”—NASV), but not of My Spirit” (30:1).
 - Sought help from Egypt—trusted in Egypt and not the Lord (30:2; 31:1).
 - Likely when Judah, led by Hezekiah, rebelled against Assyria and sought help from Egypt (see 2 Kings 18).
 - The help they sought from Egypt would be in vain (30:1–17; 31:2–9).

God's Indictment Against His People

- “Lying children” (30:9).
 - To whom had they lied?
- “Children who will not hear the law of the Lord” (30:9), who “despise this word” (30:12).
 - What DID they want to hear?
- Despised His word, despite His gracious invitation (30:15–17).

God's Indictment Against His People

- What group of people is singled out in chapter 32?
 - “Rise up, you **women** who are at ease, hear my voice; you complacent daughters, give ear to my speech” (32:9).
 - They should have been **troubled**, even to the point of **trembling**. They should have been **mourning** their condition and the punishment that would follow (32:10–14).
 - The LORD had addressed them earlier in **3:16–26**.

The Folly of Trusting in Egypt

- You will bear shame and reproach for trusting “in the shadow of Egypt” (30:3–5)—in their “many” chariots, and their “strong” horsemen (31:1).
- You can carry great tribute on donkeys and camels, but Egypt will not be able to help you (30:6–7).
- Because you do not trust in Me, you will be broken; you will not escape this judgment (30:12–17).
- “Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses are flesh, and not spirit” (31:3).
- No one intimidates the Lord (31:4–5).

The LORD will bring Assyria down

- It **won't** be with the strength of men, but with the strength of the LORD.
- 30:27–33; 31:6–9.

Better Times Ahead

- 30:18–26
 - The LORD will wait for those who wait for Him—He will be gracious and merciful toward them (18).
 - You will weep no more and the LORD will graciously hear your cry (19).
 - You will be purified by “the bread of adversity and the water of affliction” (20).
 - You **will** listen to the word of God and cast away idols (21–22).
 - The LORD will bless you abundantly (23–26).

Better Times Ahead

- 32:1–8
 - “A king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule with justice” (1).
 - This king “will be as a hiding place from the wind...a cover from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in weary land” (2).
 - Truth will be taught clearly and people will give heed to it (3–4).
 - Who is wise and who is foolish will be more clearly discerned (5–8).

Better Times Ahead

- 32:15–20
 - Justice and righteousness will once again prevail (15–16).
 - The effects of such will be peace, quietness and assurance (17–18).
 - Yes, the city must first be brought low, but the time is coming when God's people will sow and be blessed abundantly (19–20).