

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

1) 06 Sept	Isaiah 01-05	God Comforts
2) 13 Sept	Isaiah 06	God Sends
3) 20 Sept	Isaiah 07-22	God Promises
4) 27 Sept	Isaiah 23-24	God Reigns
5) 04 Oct	Isaiah 25-30	God Saves
6) 11 Oct	Isaiah 31-36	God Protects
7) 18 Oct	Isaiah 37-39	God Listens
8) 25 Oct	Isaiah 40-45	God Renews
9) 01 Nov	Isaiah 46-48	God Acts
10) 08 Nov	Isaiah 49-52	God Comforts
11) 15 Nov	Isaiah 53-57	God Justifies
12) 22 Nov	Isaiah 58-64	God Expects
13) 29 Nov	Isaiah 65-66	God Restores

**INTRODUCTION**

- **Chapter 23 – Tyre.** Tyre is mentioned over 50x in Scripture. It is a coastal town north of Israel, a city partly on the mainland and partly on an island. It was renown for being the maritime center of commerce for centuries, and it is frequently mentioned with Sidon, a neighboring city in Philistia.
  - **Sidon.** Recall Jezebel came from Sidon (1Kings 16:31); also, the first resurrection recorded in the Bible was of a Sidonian boy raised by Elijah (1Kings 17:17-24); and while visiting Tyre Jesus remotely healed a Sidonian widow's demon-possessed daughter (Matthew 15:21)
- During Solomon's reign the King of Tyre helped build Solomon's temple. This is the only time Tyre is presented in a positive light.....1Kings 5:1-18
- Tyre eventually became Israel's enemy by robbing the Temple & selling Israelites into slavery.....Amos 1; Joel 3
- **What turns one-time friends into enemies?**  Racial/Cultural differences?  Money/Greed?  Irreconcilable differences?  Other?
- **Tyre's sins.** Being a Philistine township, Tyre 1) practiced sexual perversion, 2) sought destruction of Israel, and 3) practiced idolatry
  - But God's judgment on Tyre will be more tolerable than that reserved for Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum who chose not to believe in Jesus, whose miracles conveyed His deity .....Luke 10:12-15
  - Jesus even said Sodom & Gomorrah and Tyre & Sidon would still have been around today if God had sent a miracle worker to them as He did for Capernaum & Chorazin .....Mat 11:21-23
- **Chapter 24 – World Convulsions.** This vision seems to relate to the same period Jesus spoke of in Matthew 24. Having warned several specific nations (see chapters 13-23), Isaiah now spoke in broader terms about God's ultimate triumph over evil and exaltation of Israel. Chapters 24-27 seem to allude to the Tribulation and Millennium as detailed in Revelation 5-21.
- **Lifeway's ETB Focus:** ..... Isaiah 23:8-18

Passage	Comments
Isaiah 23:1-18	<p><b>Prophecies against Tyre</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tyre's mistake was scorning Israel (Ezek 28:24). For this they would be trodden down, and their wealth given to Israel</li> <li>• Zechariah also prophesied against Tyre. It was assimilated by Assyrian, Babylonian, &amp; Green nations .....Zech 9:1-7</li> <li>• Ezekiel also prophesied against Tyre. The earthly king of Tyre (possibly Ittobaal II) was prideful and sought to profit on Israel's misfortune .....Ezek 27:1-36</li> <li>• Amos also prophesied against Tyre. For their war atrocities of enslaving and selling an entire nation to another country, their defenses would be destroyed by fire.....Amos 1:9-10                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Judah would receive the same punishment as Tyre, and their crime was they rejected God's laws.....Amos 2:4-5</li> <li>♦ Could America and other countries reap similar destruction for also rejecting God's righteous laws?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v18. Tyre's ill-gotten gain will ultimately benefit the righteous</li> <li>• History tells us Alexander the Great destroyed Tyre and Sidon c. 332 BC, in fulfillment of prophecy ..... Jeremiah 47</li> </ul>
Lessons to be Learned from Tyre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pray for those who mistreat you..... Mat 5:44</li> <li>• Don't make fun of those who fall on hard times ..... Pro 24:17</li> <li>• If no wicked/prodigious behavior, help your enemies . Luke 6:35</li> <li>• If wicked behavior, protect yourself from those out to harm you ...Protect: Neh 4:13-14; Hide: Prov 22:3; Flee: Mat 10:23</li> <li>• Other Lessons Learned from Tyre's behavior and judgment?</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
24:1-23	<p><b>Things Go from Bad to Worse – Yet Better Days are Promised</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv1-4. The earth will be polluted, shaken, &amp; burnt... 2Pet 3:10</li> <li>• vv5-14. The earth is first polluted by its inhabitants                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ How polluted is our planet (land, sea, air, and space)? We even left garbage on the Moon and on Mars</li> <li>♦ Can we clean things up to a pristine condition?</li> <li>♦ What is worse – Physical pollution or Moral pollution? Can we clean up moral pollution to a pristine condition?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v15. To be pollution-free begins with devotion to God</li> <li>• v16-20. Earth's contemporary &amp; future destruction is foretold                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ The Bible says the Heavens and the Earth will pass away (Psalm 102:25-26; Mat 24:35, Mark 13:31, Luke 21:33; Heb 1:10-11; 2Peter 2:10, 13; Rev 21:1)</li> <li>♦ Scripture also says the Heavens and the Earth will last forever (Deut 4:40, Ps 78:69; 104:5; Ecc 1:4)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v21-23. Here, we see a reconstructed earth has the Lord of Hosts (aka, Jesus Christ) reigning from Jerusalem</li> </ul>
Lessons to be Learned from Earth's Demise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A slow, methodical cleanup of physical and moral corruption and pollution of the earth and of mankind will not happen</li> <li>• Rampant, non-repentant, society-wide sexual sins (adultery, homosexuality, bestiality, pedophilia, etc.) invoke God to wipe the slate clean and start over – as seen with Noah's generation, Sodom &amp; Gomorrah, the 7 Canaanite nations, near wipe-out of the tribe of Benjamin, Judah, and Israel, and finally, the last generation – which we might be in</li> <li>• So, let's continue to live a godly life as a testimony to a dying world that we might "by all means save some"..... 1Cor 9:22</li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS**

- Tyre, like Arab nations today, was bent on Israel's destruction. What can we do to turn enemies into friends? Yes, one day many Arabs will grab hold of a Jew, not to hurt them, but to follow them to Jerusalem to worship God (Zech 8:23).
- Consider what Jesus did to turn us from being His one-time enemies to loyal friends – He gave His all for us. Giving our all for others may not work for all, but it will work for some when they see our love for them.

**NEXT WEEK: Isaiah 25-30.** Many of the prophecies seem to allude to the end of the Millennial reign of Christ when all the wicked are finally removed from the old earth and tossed into Hell for all eternity, and the start of the new Heaven and Earth when Israel and the world enjoy real peace.

