

WOE TO THE WICKED

Isaiah 3

Let us review the chaotic situation of men who continually disregard God.

I. THE CONDITIONS OF CHAOS (1-7)

A. NO GOODS (1)

1. The supply and support are removed
2. No bread or water – basic supplies are lacking > Famine

B. AN UNSTABLE GOVERNMENT (2-7)

1. Depletion: The tried and trusted rulers are taken away (2-3)
2. Disaster: They are replaced with immature, impulsive, inexperienced and disrespectful youth. (4-5)
3. Desperation: Therefore men desperately seek to appoint leaders who can meet their material needs (6-7)

II. THE REASONS FOR CHAOS (8-25)

A. PEOPLE SIN AND FACE THE CONSEQUENCES (8-12)

1. Their Shameless Sin (8-9)
 - a. Rebellion against God: Their speech and activities provoke a holy God! (8)
 - b. Reveling in sin: They openly demonstrate and declare their sin! (9a)
 - c. Receiving just retribution (9b)
2. The Consequences (11-12)
 - a. They will receive the bad things they deserve!
 - b. Children oppress them, and women rule over them (12a)
 - c. The people are led into error > They lose their way without a trace left behind

B. GOD IS OFFENDED AND JUDGES THE WICKED (13-25)

- “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.” - Heb. 10:31
1. The Judging God (13-14a)
 2. The Wicked Rulers (14b-15) > Flagrant violence!
- Devouring, robbing, beating and brutalizing the people
 3. The Flirtatious Women (16-25) > From beauty to brokenness
 - a. Their wickedness (16)
 - b. Their punishment (17-25)
- Their health (17), finery (18-23), femininity (24) and men (25) are taken away

Over please >

III. **THE RESULT OF THE CHAOS** (3:26 – 4:1)

- A. LAMENTATION: Constant crying in the gates where once they merrily flirted (26a)
- B. DESOLATION: No joy or delicacies only emptiness (26b)
 - The wages of sin are depression, not just death!
- C. DESPERATION: Women desperate for a husband (4:1)

IV. **SOME CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT THIS CHAOS**

- A. THERE IS COMFORT AMID CHAOS (v.10)
 - 1. It will be well with the righteous
 - 2. They will reap the benefits of doing right
 - 3. Lesson: Don't lose hope when things look hopeless ... keep doing right and look to God for your reward.
- B. THERE ARE CONSEQUENCES FOR CORRUPTION
 - 1. We are surrounded by horrible people
 - 2. We are surrounded by hurting people
 - Note: Job 8:11-15 and Psalm 9:15-20
- C. THERE IS CHRIST FOR THE CRISIS - Psalm 50:22-23
 - 1. The hurting can find hope in Christ
 - 2. We have the responsibility of calling those trapped in chaos to Christ.
 - "O my people!" > Exclaimed two times in v. 12

CONCLUSION: We have the cure for chaos – Christ, the Redeemer!