

due December 10, 2017

Then had thy peace been as a river (48:18)!
There is no peace unto the wicked (48:22)
Isaiah 46-48

Monday (December 4)—prayerfully read/enjoy Isaiah 46:1-7.

1. It seems that Bel and Nebo are names of idols in Isaiah 46:1, and that 46:2 is an explanation of 46:1; if so, who (or what) could not deliver the burden mentioned in verse 2? Please skip this question if it doesn't make sense to you after wrestling with it at least a little. _____
2. For how long would the LORD ("I") carry and deliver the Israelites (46:3-4)? _____

(bonus) Is the LORD here saying He will carry them whether or not they look to Him? _____
3. What question does the LORD ask His people (in your own words) (46:5)? _____
4. What do the people do regarding the idols (46:6-7)? _____
5. What do the idols do for the people (46:6-7)? _____
6. Many (all) Christians grow weary, and they are tempted to find relief in God-substitutes (idols); meditate a little (or more) on this passage, and take it with you for the day! _____

Tuesday (December 5)—prayerfully read Isaiah 46:8-13.

1. How could the Israelites show themselves to be men (46:8)? _____
2. What are they to remember (46:9)? _____
3. What ability does God declare in 46:10 to show that He is God? _____

4. What prediction does God give in 46:11? _____

5. How are the stout-hearted identified in 46:12? _____

6. What does the LORD say that He soon will accomplish (46:13)? _____

Wednesday (December 6)—prayerfully read Isaiah 47:1-7.

1. What nation is being addressed (and judged) in most of these first seven verses of Isaiah 47? _____

(bonus) Which verse of these seven seems to be referring to another people, and who would the other be (hint, it is between v. 3 and v. 5)? _____
2. What word picture does the LORD paint to communicate what is about to happen to Babylon (47:1-7)? _____

3. What titles were given the lady of Babylon (47:1-7)? _____

4. Does the LORD reveal in this section that He was angry with His people and why (47:1-7)? _____

(bonus) Why do you suppose the LORD makes this point (that He was wroth with His people) here? _____

5. In this section, what seems to be the reason for punishment to fall on Babylon (47:6-7)? _____

6. Meditate at least a little on 47:4 and how it might fit in this section of verses, and take your meditations with you for the day! _____

Thursday (December 7)—**prayerfully** read Isaiah 47:8-15.

1. What three failures of Babylon are identified in 47:8? _____

2. What two punishments would come upon Babylon (47:9)?

3. In what did Babylon trust, and what perverted her (47:10)?

4. What did the LORD encourage Babylon to stand with (47:12-13)? _____
5. What would be left when the fire (presumably from the LORD) burned these false things and people on which Babylon formerly trusted (47:14)? _____

(bonus) Who else would forsake Babylon (verse 15)?

6. What truth of God most impresses you from this passage (and take it with you for the day)? _____

Friday (December 8)—**prayerfully** read Isaiah 48:1-11.

1. What is pointed out as the Israelite's problem (sin) in 48:1-2?

2. The LORD prophesied, and His prophecies came to pass (48:3); what reason did the LORD give in 48:4 for doing this?

(bonus) Do you get the idea from these verses that stubbornness is good? _____
3. The LORD declared new and hidden things to the Israelites before they came to pass; what two reasons did He give for doing this (48:5-7)? _____

4. What did the LORD know ahead of time as to how His people would act (48:8)? _____

5. What reason did the LORD give for putting off (“deferring”) His anger and also for refining them in the furnace of affliction” (48:9-11)? _____
6. Meditate on how God does what He does for His Name’s sake, and for His praise (48:9) (and take it with you for the day).

Saturday (December 9)—prayerfully read Isaiah 48:12-22.

1. How does the LORD identify Himself in 48:12? _____

2. What do the earth and the heaven do when the LORD calls unto them (48:13)? _____
3. The LORD says of someone “The LORD has loved him” (v. 14) and “I have called him: I have brought him, and he shall make his way prosperous” (v. 15). This seems to be a prophecy, referring to someone the LORD will raise up to overcome the Babylonians/Chaldeans (v. 14). Who do you suppose that is, mentioned earlier in the book (44:28/45:1, also referred to but unnamed in 46:11)? _____

(bonus) Who do you suppose “me” refers to, the last word in verse 16? _____

4. When would God’s people’s peace have been as a river, and her righteousness as the waves of the sea” (48:18)?

5. Isaiah 48:22 is a famous verse which many have memorized; is the wicked in this verse referring to God’s people or to the heathen, and why? _____

6. In application of 48:20, how are we to go forth in obedience to what we have been told to flee?! _____

Sunday (December 10)—prayerfully review Isaiah 46-48.

Thanks again for attempting this SSSG; it takes time and effort (thought), and these are not easy chapters—we all benefit from your efforts!