Isaiah 28

A Precious Cornerstone

Beauty fades (1)

Woe to Samaria – the wreath – a city of beauty and privilege (I Corinthians 1:26-31) Wine has laid them low (Psalm 23:29-35)

Broken and trampled (2-4)

Powerful – destructive, driving downpour – Assyria is coming against you Pride of the drunkards is trampled Picked before harvest – like the early figs (Psalm 73:12, 18-20 / I Thessalonians 5:2)

Beautiful One (5-6)

Sovereign Lord – he is truly the beautiful wreath Spirit of justice abides in Him (John 5:30) Source of strength is found in Him (Philippians 4:13)

Banquet of vomit (7-8)

Prophets and priests befuddled by wine – those who should teach and lead Producing vomit and filth (II Peter 2:17-22 / I John 4:5-6)

Being taught? (9-13)

Mocking the teachers – we are not children needing baby talk (I Corinthians 10:12) Men of strange tongues – punished by those whose language is unfamiliar Message of the Lord – given so even a child can comprehend (John 3:16 / Acts 16:31)

Boasting of a covenant with death (14-15)

Scoffers – who claim a covenant with death (Jeremiah 7:1-8) Scourge cannot touch us – we are above such judgment Standing on a lie – the false hope of false teaching (John 8:24, 43-47)

Blanket is too small (16-20)

Stone in Zion – to trust in Him is to never be dismayed (Psalm 118:22-24/Luke 20:17-18) Sweeping away the lie – exposed for what it is (John 3:19-21) Short bed and blanket – sheer terror – no cover of safety

Bowing before God (21-29)

Performing His strange work – judgment is not His desire (II Peter 3:9) Persisting in mocking? – chains only become heavier Plowing continually? – digging a deeper pit Perfect in wisdom – He alone teaches us the right way (Psalm 25:4-14) Discussion questions for Isaiah 28

Why is it that riches, beauty, and privilege often lead to destruction? (Ezekiel 28:17 / Deuteronomy 8:12 / I Peter 3:3-4)

Why does the enemy often target those in positions of spiritual leadership? How can we thwart the enemies attempts to destroy their ministry? (Acts 20:27-32 / Hebrews 13:17-18 / James 3:1 / I Timothy 5:19-20)

What are the consequences of basing your life and your hope on a lie? How can we know that we are standing on the truth? (I John 2:20-28; 4:1-6)

Why should not being fully covered bring terror? How does that relate to the truth concerning our salvation? (Ephesians 6:10-13 / II Thessalonians 2:9-12)

Isaiah 28

A Precious Cornerstone

Beauty fades (1) (James 1:11; 5:1) riches and beauty are not always blessings Woe to Samaria – the wreath – a city of beauty and privilege (I Corinthians 1:26-31) Wine has laid them low (Psalm 23:29-35) (Hebrews 11:25) pleasure of sin?

Broken and trampled (2-4)

Powerful – destructive, driving downpour – Assyria is coming against you Pride of the drunkards is trampled **(Daniel 5:22-24) Belshazzar's party** Picked before harvest – like the early figs (Psalm 73:12, 18-20 / I Thessalonians 5:2) **The wicked will be destroyed suddenly – they will not be expecting it** Beautiful One (5-6) Sovereign Lord – he is truly the beautiful wreath **A nation cannot flourish w/o Him** Spirit of justice abides in Him (John 5:30) **Jesus is the Righteous Judge**

Source of strength is found in Him (Philippians 4:13) to face any circumstance

Banquet of vomit (7-8) *What is offered by false teachers (II Peter 2:13-14)* Prophets and priests befuddled by wine – those who should teach and lead

Producing vomit and filth (II Peter 2:17-22 / I John 4:5-6)

 Being taught? (9-13) Warning to listen to the Lord's teaching – even if it seems too simple Mocking the teachers – we are not children needing baby talk (I Corinthians 10:12) Men of strange tongues – punished by those whose language is unfamiliar Message of the Lord – given so even a child can comprehend (John 3:16 / Acts 16:31)

Boasting of a covenant with death (14-15)

Scoffers – who claim a covenant with death (Jeremiah 7:1-8) *trusting religion, not God* Scourge cannot touch us – we are above such judgment *it can't happen to us??* Standing on a lie – the false hope of false teaching (John 8:24, 43-47) *Jesus is truth*

Blanket is too small (16-20) there is no covering for those who reject God

Stone in Zion – to trust in Him is to never be dismayed (Psalm 118:22-24/Luke 20:17-18) Sweeping away the lie – exposed for what it is (John 3:19-21) *afraid of the light - USA* Short bed and blanket – sheer terror – no cover of safety *weaknesses exposed*

Bowing before God (21-29)

Performing His strange work – judgment is not His desire (II Peter 3:9) **Repent! Ez. 18:32** Persisting in mocking? – chains only become heavier **the burden of sin (Psalm 32:3-4)** Plowing continually? – digging a deeper pit **we must allow God to plant His seed** Perfect in wisdom – He alone teaches us the right way (Psalm 25:4-14) **humility needed** Discussion questions for Isaiah 28

Why is it that riches, beauty, and privilege often lead to destruction? (Ezekiel 28:17 / Deuteronomy 8:12 / I Peter 3:3-4) *When we are doing well, we become proud. We begin to think that we really don't need God in our lives. We focus more on the outward appearance than the condition of our heart or character.*

Why does the enemy often target those in positions of spiritual leadership? How can we thwart the enemies attempts to destroy their ministry? (Acts 20:27-32 / Hebrews 13:17-18 / James 3:1 / I Timothy 5:19-20) When a leader falls, it often impacts many others (Zechariah 13:7 - they leave, they lose faith, they go astray). False teachers seek a following of their own, so they find it necessary to discredit those who teach truth. Leaders must be humble, accountable, and dependent upon God (seeking to grow in His Word and surrender to Him daily). Leaders need support, encouragement, accountability, and prayer. If a leader is not pointing people to the Lord and to His Word, encouraging others to be good 'Bereans' (Acts 17:11), they will soon be leading in the wrong direction.

What are the consequences of basing your life and your hope on a lie? How can we know that we are standing on the truth? (I John 2:20-28; 4:1-6) **All that you do, all that you accomplish**, will be without meaning. You will find yourself serving the enemy of your soul. (Ephesians 2:1-3) You will never come to know the God who created you, loves you, and gives purpose to your life. We know that we belong to the truth because of the Spirit who dwells in us. (Romans 8:16) We know that we are following the truth when our lives and our thoughts are in line with the teachings of His Word. (John 17:17)

Why should not being fully covered bring terror? How does that relate to the truth concerning our salvation? (Ephesians 6:10-13 / II Thessalonians 2:9-12) *It would be like locking the doors to your car while leaving the windows open. It leaves a part of you exposed and vulnerable to the attack of an enemy. We are instructed to be strong in the Lord (not ourselves), putting on the full armor of God (not just part of it). When we: compromise; neglect time with God; try doing things on our own (without giving ourselves first to God); try to cover up our sin; or separate ourselves from fellowship with the Body, we become vulnerable. Our enemy is a great deceiver and worker of miracles that purposely deceive. His desire is to lead us away from God and from His truth, so that we will be destroyed. We must stay close to God (James 4: 4-8)*