

## The Coming Day of the Lord ~ Part 1

### Yesha'yahu 2:6-8

In my last post, we examined **Yesha'yahu 2:1-5** to learn about **The Mountain of the Lord**. In this post, we look at **The Coming Day of the Lord** in **Yesha'yahu 2:6-22**. You will notice that I have switched gears for my blog for this series as I will be taking more of a verse-by-verse format.

To the prophets, the **Day of the Lord** was foreshadowed by events in their day. In the Book of **Yesha'yahu**, **Assyria's** conquest of the Northern Kingdom [**Isra'el**] and invasion of **Y'hudah**, and the **Babylonian** captivity of **Y'hudah** both picture the coming **Day of the Lord**.

***⁶ For you have abandoned your people the house of Ya'akov. Now they are filled from the east, full of sorcerers, like the P'lishtim [Philistines]; even the children of foreigners are enough for them!***

God had removed His presence from His people because they had imbibed of the superstitions of their neighbors to the East (**Edom** and **Mesopotamia**) and the west (**Philistia**). They practiced divination. Divination was the science of being able to interpret the omens and formulate incantations that would be effective in dispelling the powers that threatened them. The **Torah** forbade such practices (Leviticus 19:26; Deuteronomy 18:9-14).

*Even as people in Yesha'yahu's day were fascinated by the Babylonian and Syrian cultures with all their magic and mystery, where are people turning today? To Eastern mysticism and spiritism. <sup>1</sup>*

***⁷ Their land is full of silver and gold; They have no end of treasures. Their land is full of horses; They have no end of chariots. <sup>8</sup> Their land is full of idols; everyone worships the work of his hands, what his own fingers have made.***

Deuteronomy 17:14-20 prohibited kings from accumulating precious metals and military assets, i.e., horses and chariots. **Assyrian** chariots were large, carrying four men and being pulled by four horses which represented the cutting edge of military technology. Vast economic resources were required to import the animals, build the chariots and train the horsemen and charioteers (for an indication of the expense see 1 Kings 10:29).

Idols came in a variety of shapes and sizes in the ancient Near East. They were typically carved of wood and overlaid with hammered-out sheets of silver or gold and then clothed in the finest attire. Human in appearance (except those from Egypt, which combined human and animal characteristics), they had distinctive, even formalized, poses, clothing, and hairstyles. **Sha'ul** reflected this understanding when he referred to the folly when ***they have exchanged the glory of the immortal God for mere images, like a mortal human being, or like birds, animals or reptiles!*** ~ Romans 1:23 (CJB)

As in our culture today, the people of **Y'hudah** were not only rich, prosperous, and enamored with Eastern thought, but they had idols. Theirs happened to be made of stone and wood, while ours can be flesh and blood or chrome and rubber.

Have you abandoned the God of our fathers and replaced Him with your idols?

In my next post, I will continue to explore **The Coming Day of the Lord** in **Yesha'yahu 2:9-22**.

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<sup>1</sup> Jon Courson's Application Commentary Old Testament Volume 2.