

The Women of Yerushalayim Yesha'yahu 32:9-20

In my last post, we learned of the **Coming of a Righteous King** in **Yesha'yahu 32:1-8**. In this post, we examine a prophecy concerning **The Women of Yerushalayim** in **Yesha'yahu 32:9-20**.

⁹ You women who are so complacent, listen to me! Overconfident women pay attention to my words!

The prophecy now addresses the women in the community of the people of **Adonai**. They also show pride in human resources rather than in the **Adonai**. They are **complacent** and **overconfident**.

¹⁰ In a year and a few days more, you overconfident women will shudder, because the vintage will fail, the harvest will not come.

It appears that the security of these women is in the abundant produce of the land, but **Yesha'hayu** pointed out that this prosperity is temporary. In the next year, **vintage** (wine) and **harvest** (crop production) will fail. Tough economic times are ahead.

¹¹ Tremble, you complacent women! Shudder, you overconfident women! Strip bare, wear sackcloth to cover yourselves.

Yesha'hayu seems to be saying: "You should be wearing **sackcloth** in brokenness and humility. Instead, you're dressed for a party." One of the rituals associated with mourning and supplication is to wear **sackcloth** (see Genesis 37:34; 1 Kings 20:31-32). Any society whose women begin to lose their moral moorings and begin to flaunt their sensuality is headed for trouble.

¹² Beat your breasts in mourning for the pleasant fields and fruitful vines,

In addition to wearing **sackcloth**, beating one's chest was also a mourning customs.

¹³ for the land of my people, producing thorns and briars, for all the happy homes in the joyful city.

The land will produce **thorns** and **briars**, useless plants, instead of grains and vines. The idea is similar to the curse against Adam in Genesis 3:18.

¹⁴ For the palace will be abandoned, the crowded city deserted, 'Ofel and fortress wastelands forever, a delight for wild donkeys and a pasture for flocks -

Not only will the fields be desolate and unproductive, but so will the city of **Yerushalayim**. It will be turned into the haunt of wild animals. **'Ofel** (Citadel) refers to a portion of **Yerushalayim** where a specific watchtower stood (see Nehemiah 3:26).

Because the **Adonai** would mercifully and mightily deliver **Yerushalayim** from destruction at the hand of the **Ashurim**, this prophecy would see fulfillment when the Jews were carried into captivity to **Bavel** in 586 BCE. Of course, it would be even more fully and tragically realized in the destruction of **Yerushalayim** by **Rome** in 70 CE.

¹⁵ till the Spirit is poured out on us from above, and the desert becomes a fertile field, with the fertile field regarded as a forest.

When the ***Spirit*** is poured out, everything changes. We see three great outpourings of the ***Spirit*** in Scripture: before the end times in Joel 2, at the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2, and in the millennial kingdom as seen here.

¹⁶ Then justice will dwell in the desert, and righteousness abides in the fertile field. ¹⁷ The effect of righteousness will be peace; the result of righteousness, quiet trust forever.

Being right with **Adonai** and our neighbors ***will bring peace. Shalom*** is more than the absence of conflict. It includes personal wholeness and does not depend on outside circumstances.

¹⁸ My people will live in a peaceful place, in secure neighborhoods, and tranquil dwellings.

Living ***in a peaceful place*** and feeling ***secure and tranquil*** were blessings of **Isra'el's** covenant with the **Adonai**, but the people's sin had previously brought curses rather than blessings.

¹⁹ Just as the forest will surely come down, the city will surely be laid low. ²⁰ Happy are you who sow by all streams, letting oxen and donkeys roam freely. ~ Isaiah 32:9-20 (CJB)

The godly would remain secure even with evidence of **Adonai's** judgment all around them.

In my next post, we move to the sixth and final woe in chapters 28-33 in **Yesha'hayu 33:1-13** to learn about **A Woe Against Those on Whom the King Will Take Vengeance ~ Part 1**.