

Isaiah 31:1-9 **Trusting in men or in God**

The Folly of trusting in Egypt instead of God

1 Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, And rely on horses, Who trust in chariots because they are many, And in horsemen because they are very strong, But who do not look to the Holy One of Israel, Nor seek the Lord! 2 Yet He also is wise and will bring disaster, And will not call back His words, But will arise against the house of evildoers, And against the help of those who work iniquity.

3 Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; And their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When the Lord stretches out His hand, Both he who helps will fall, And he who is helped will fall down; They all will perish together.

God's plan for Deliverance of Israel and Jerusalem

4 For thus the Lord has spoken to me:

"As a lion roars, And a young lion over his prey (When a multitude of shepherds is summoned against him, He will not be afraid of their voice Nor be disturbed by their noise), So the Lord of hosts will come down To fight for Mount Zion and for its hill. 5 Like birds flying about, So will the Lord of hosts defend Jerusalem. Defending, He will also deliver it; Passing over, He will preserve it."

6 Return to Him against whom the children of Israel have deeply revolted. 7 For in that day every man shall throw away his idols of silver and his idols of gold — sin, which your own hands have made for yourselves.

Assyria will fall in the purge before the Kingdom of God

8 "Then Assyria shall fall by a sword not of man, And a sword not of mankind shall devour him. But he shall flee from the sword, And his young men shall become forced labor. 9 He shall cross over to his stronghold for fear, And his princes shall be afraid of the banner," Says the Lord, Whose fire is in Zion And whose furnace is in Jerusalem.

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Facts Revealed:

The Folly of trusting in Egypt instead of God

✧ Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, And rely on horses, Who trust in chariots because they are many, And in horsemen because they are very strong, But who do not look to the Holy One of Israel, Nor seek the Lord! Yet He also is wise and will bring disaster, And will not call back His words, But will arise against the house of evildoers, And against the help of those who work iniquity.

3 Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; And their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When the Lord stretches out His hand, Both he who helps will fall, And he who is helped will fall down; They all will perish together. [\[Isaiah 31:1-3\]](#)

✧ Israel is a very small nation with long borders on all sides facing hostile neighbors.

✧ When threatened with destruction from her neighbors, Israel has always looked to other nations for help in times of trouble.

- ✧ Even today when faced with threats of annihilation, Israel is looking to peace agreements with Egypt and USA to help them survive an overwhelming attack by their enemies.
- ✧ In the end they will all fail because both the nation of Israel and the nations to whom they turn for help are all sinful nations and will fall before the judgment of God.

God's plan for Deliverance of Israel and Jerusalem

✧ For thus the Lord has spoken to me:

"As a lion roars, And a young lion over his prey (When a multitude of shepherds is summoned against him, **He will not be afraid of their voice Nor be disturbed by their noise**), So the **Lord of hosts will come down To fight for Mount Zion and for its hill. Like birds flying about**, So will the Lord of hosts defend Jerusalem. Defending, He will also deliver it; **Passing over, He will preserve it.**"

Return to Him against whom the children of Israel have deeply revolted. For **in that day** every man shall throw away his idols of silver and his idols of gold — sin, which your own hands have made for yourselves. [\[Isaiah 31:4-7\]](#)

- ✧ Yahweh looks at the end before the beginning, and His plan for the defense of Israel is set for a specific timing when Israel might be totally eliminated by Satan and his hordes.
- ✧ The particular situation is clearly described and fully reflects the time when Messiah will come from Heaven with the armies of Heaven following Him as described in the battle of Armageddon. [\[Revelation 19:11-21\]](#)
- ✧ The approach toward Jerusalem is as birds flying as the Lord comes from Heaven to the earth with all the armies of Heaven, both Saints and Angels riding on horses.
- ✧ Like the lion with its prey, Yahweh is not afraid of the armies of the earth who are gathered against Jerusalem.
- ✧ The Sharp Sword from His mouth indicates the power of His spoken word, which He speaks and the armies gathered against Jerusalem will be dissolved as the coming Lord with His armies are passing overhead. [\[Zechariah 14:12-15\]](#)
- ✧ When the people of Israel and Jerusalem see the arrival of the Lord with His Saints and Angels and the defeat of the armies, they will know the Lord from that time and onward.
- ✧ At that time, they will cast away their idols of silver and of gold, and will gladly receive the Lord against Whom the Children of Israel have deeply revolted.
- ✧ Their conversion is not by faith, but by sight. They will recognize Him as the Messiah they had been looking for so long; the Messiah who is King of kings and Lord of lords as He rides into Jerusalem, the Victorious King over all their enemies.
- ✧ They refused to acknowledge Him when He came to die for their sins, but they will gladly welcome Him when they see Him victorious over their enemies.
- ✧ In the mean time, so many generations have perished because they refused to accept their Savior Who died on the cross for the sins of the world.
- ✧ The call to repentance has been here all along, but they were unwilling to respond in faith.

Assyria will fall in the purge before the Kingdom of God

✧ "Then Assyria shall fall by a sword not of man, And a sword not of mankind shall devour him. But he shall flee from the sword, And his young men shall become forced labor. He shall cross over to his stronghold for fear, And his princes shall be afraid of the banner," Says the Lord, Whose fire is in Zion And whose furnace is in Jerusalem. [\[Isaiah 31:8-9\]](#)

- ✧ Assyria will fall along with all the nations that fall at the Judgment Seat of Christ, and not by the sword of mankind, but by the sword of Yahweh Whose glorious Throne, the seat of power is in Zion and Jerusalem.