

Isaiah Series Part 9

Chapters 30:1-32:8

“Trusting in the Holy One of Israel”

Introduction

Have you ever purchased something that didn't turn out to look like the picture? Have you ever had an insurance policy that didn't pay? Both are cases of misplaced trust.

Isreal wanted an insurance policy. Assyria threatened them, and instead of trusting God, they turned to Egypt to buy insurance.

John Oswalt observes: "The essence of sin is self-reliance" (Isaiah, NICOT).

Question for us: *Where do we instinctively place our trust when life presses in?*

The Folly of Misplaced Trust

(30:1-17; 31:1-3)

Stubborn Children (30:1–5) – Judah makes alliances “not of the Spirit.” Egypt will fail them.

A Worthless Journey (30:6–7) – Motyer notes the picture of a caravan crossing deserts with treasures for Egypt—yet “Rahab sits still” (do-nothing Egypt).

A Written Witness (30:8–11) – They don’t want truth, just “pleasant illusions.”

The Folly of Misplaced Trust

(30:1-17; 31:1-3)

- **The Consequence (30:12–17; 31:1–3)** – Collapse like a shattered pot; Egypt is flesh, not Spirit.
- **Key Word:** “In returning and rest you shall be saved” (30:15). But they refused.
- **Transition:** We, too, resist resting in God, preferring quick fixes. But God does not abandon His people.

The Grace of God's Intervention (30:18–33; 31:4–9)

The Lord's Longing (30:18–22) – God *waits* to be gracious. When His people cry, He answers.

Restoration Blessings (30:23–26) – Abundance, healing, light—God reverses devastation.

Judgment on Assyria (30:27–33) – God comes in majesty, bringing justice to the nations.

The Grace of God's Intervention (30:18–33; 31:4–9)

God's Lionlike Protection (31:4–5) – Fierce as a lion, tender as a mother bird.

The Call to Repentance (31:6–9) – “Return, you Israelites!” Assyria will fall by a sword “not of man.”

Transition: Human strength fails, but God's power and mercy prevail. Yet His promise goes deeper—beyond Assyria, beyond Judah—to the King who brings righteousness.

The Promise of the Righteous King (32:1-8)

A King in Righteousness (32:1–2) – Unlike Judah's leaders, this king rules justly. Motyer: He is a shelter, a stream, a shade.

Open Eyes and Ears (32:3–4) – Under his reign, dullness is replaced with understanding and clarity.

Moral Clarity (32:5–8) – No more confusion between fool and noble. The noble one makes noble plans and lives them out.

Transition: This vision is messianic—pointing to Christ, the righteous King who shelters us and opens blind eyes.

Conclusion:

Israel's temptation: trust in Egypt's horses. Our temptation: trust in wealth, politics, clever strategies, or self-reliance.

God's invitation remains: "In returning and rest you shall be saved."

Christ fulfills Isaiah's promise: He is the righteous King, the noble One, the lion and the lamb.

Oswalt: *"Faith is trusting the character of God when the evidence seems to run contrary."*

Call: Will you run to Egypt—or to Christ? Will you rely on your schemes—or return and rest in Him?