

## Confusion in the Valley of Vision

Isaiah 22

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ Nation (v. 1-14)
  - a. Ignorant of a vision of \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. Uncouth \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. Irresolute \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. Inevitable \_\_\_\_\_
    - iv. Uncovered \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Ignorant of the God of \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. Reliance on \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. Reliance on \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. Reliance on \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Ignorant of the call for \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_ in place of humility
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ in place of faith
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ Leader (v. 15-19)
  - a. Search for \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Search for \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. What are you doing \_\_\_\_\_?
    - ii. God will do this \_\_\_\_\_!
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ Leader (v. 20-25)
  - a. A \_\_\_\_\_ leader
  - b. A \_\_\_\_\_ leader
  - c. An \_\_\_\_\_ leader
  - d. A \_\_\_\_\_ leader

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### ***Dangers of Self-reliance***

Mankind has been tempted to forget or ignore God in pretty much every generation. From the pride of those building the tower of Babel to today's sages and nation-builders, we human beings like to believe we are self-reliant and can solve our own problems or make our own successful plans.

In the days of King Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah, the Assyrian threat was continuously looming even as the Babylonian threat would over a hundred years later. The king, together with his officials such as Shebna or Eliakim, were tempted to think of their own plans and resources before God's resources. Thus, reinforcing walls (v. 10), designing a new water system (v. 9, 11; 2 Kings 20:20), collecting weapons (v. 8; 1 Kings 10:17) all came before giving thought to God (v. 11). Even these good plans must not be prioritized before seeking the refuge and protection of God Himself!

### ***Dangers of Human Reliance***

Not only is it tempting to place our trust in our own plans but sometimes we place our trust in our own leaders. Shebna was evidently a bad leader in Hezekiah's cabinet. When he should have been seeking to plan and meet the needs of the nation, he was more concerned with his own legacy. There are many leaders in Washington D.C. with the same complex.

While it's easy to see the silliness of placing trust in a bad leader, it's just as dangerous to place trust in a good one. Eliakim is given great praise as a responsible, caring, servant of God and the people. Yet even this great example of leadership is a poor excuse for faith. His secure place in leadership will fail as he ages, grows weak or dies. Only God is worthy of our trust. Rely only upon Him!