

The Reward of False Security

Isaiah 47

John Calvin on Isaiah 47:7

And thou saidst, I shall for ever be a mistress. Here he censures the haughtiness of the Babylonians, in promising to themselves perpetual dominion, and in thinking that they could not fall from their elevation through any adverse event. Thus the children of this world are intoxicated by prosperity, and despise all men as compared with themselves; but Isaiah mocks at this confidence, and shews that God regards it with the greatest abhorrence. To say, means here to conclude in one's own mind, as will be more clearly evident from what the Prophet says shortly afterwards; for proud men do not publicly speak in this manner, but entertain this conviction, though they pretend the contrary. It is intolerable madness when men, forgetting their frailty, look upon themselves as not sharing in the common lot; for in this way they forget that they are men. Believers, too, have their conviction of being safe, because, under the protecting hand of God, they are prepared boldly to encounter every danger. And yet they do not cease to consider that they are liable to many distresses, because nothing in this world is lasting. Irreligious men, therefore, mock God whenever, through a foolish imagination, they promise to themselves lasting peace amidst the constant changes of the world.

Hitherto thou hast not applied thy mind to it. For the purpose of heightening the description of their madness, he adds that even a long course of time did not render them more moderate. To become elated immediately after having obtained a victory, is not so wonderful; but to become more fierce from day to day, and to throw out taunts against their captives, was altogether savage and intolerable. This arose, as we have said, from pride; because they did not consider that a revolution of affairs would afterwards take place, or that a condition so magnificent could be changed. Consequently, this is the second reason why the Lord overturned the monarchy of the Babylonians.

Read through the Bible in a year!

Jul 25: **Psalms 37-39; Acts 26**

Jul 29: **Psalms 49-50; Romans 1**

Jul 26: **Psalms 40-42; Acts 27:1-26**

Jul 30: **Psalms 51-53; Romans 2**

Jul 27: **Psalms 43-45; Acts 27:27-44**

Jul 31: **Psalms 54-56; Romans 3**

Jul 28: **Psalms 46-48; Acts 28**

1. The Humiliation of _____ (v. 1-7)

- a. _____ of the humiliation
 - i. Abode from pampering to _____
 - ii. Position from spoiled to _____
 - iii. Reputation from veiled to _____
- b. _____ of the humiliation
- c. _____ for the humiliation
 - i. Lack of _____
 - ii. Indiscriminate _____
 - iii. Claims of _____

2. The Humiliation of the _____ (v. 8-11)

- a. Eminent pride in claim of _____ (8,10)
 - i. Gorging on _____
 - ii. Counting on _____
 - iii. Denying any _____
 - iv. Relying on own _____
- b. God's _____ on this pride (9,11)
 - i. Bringing _____ repercussions
 - ii. Exposing _____ machinations
 - iii. Bringing _____ & _____ trouble

3. The Humiliation of the _____ (v. 12-15)

- a. Powerless " _____ "
 - i. Weary _____
 - ii. Weary _____
- b. Powerless _____
 - i. Wandering _____ partners
 - ii. Absent _____