

Theme: Although the day of the Lord is a day of judgment for the nations that have rejected God, He is calling a remnant from every nation to be part of His people.

I. Art and fiction - Powerful Depictions

- A. Express things poetically, idealistically
- B. Sometimes more powerfully! Isaiah 19 like that

II. Context, Structure and Message

- A. Context: An oracle of Judgement
 - 1. Similar to other oracles against nations
 - 2. A great time of terror is coming
 - 3. Written in poetry
 - 4. Is there any hope for Egypt or nations?
- B. Structure
 - 1. Shifts from poetry to prose
 - 2. Built around 'in that day' (v16,18,19,23,24)
 - 3. Moves from judgment to increasing salvation
- C. Message
 - 1. There is hope for Egypt and the nations
 - 2. Egypt/Assyria will become part of God's people

III. A Day of Judgment and Salvation

- A. In that day - judgment from Yahweh

- 1. Egyptians will fear at God's raised hand (v16)
- 2. Egyptians not oppress but fear Judah (v17)
- 3. An allusion to the Exodus - God's hand; fear
- B. In that day - Egypt turns to the Lord
 - 1. Yahweh strikes and heals - Egypt turns (v22)
 - 2. God's striking is redemptive for Egypt
- C. In that day - a sign of Egypt's salvation
 - 1. Speak language of Israel (v18)
 - 2. Not literal speaking - allegiance to Yahweh
 - a. Five cities? City of Destruction?
 - 1. Five of six - great turning (Calvin)
 - 2. Five of 30,000 - begins small (Joshua)
 - 3. Metaphorical - Represent many cities
 - b. City of Destruction - or City of the Sun?
 - 1. Different manuscripts have each
 - 2. Destruction - did not turn
 - 3. Sun - Heliopolis - pagan center has turned!
- D. In that day - a true salvation
 - 1. Altar and monument - center and edge (v19)
 - 2. A sign & witness; salvation like Judges (v20)

3. True knowledge; true worship (v21)
4. Not literal altar, judges, sacrifices - but REAL

E. In that day - a spreading salvation (v23)

1. A highway from Egypt to Assyria
2. Now they worship together
3. Now at peace with one another

F. A full salvation - the people of God

1. Egypt, Assyria, and Israel - on level (v24)
2. All 3 - commissioned to be a blessing (v24)
3. All 3 - the people of God (v25)

IV. A Glorious Picture of the Gospel Age

A. All of these point powerfully to the Gospel

1. God sent salvation through Christ the Deliverer
2. Salvation now offered to all nations
3. This salvation breaks down walls
4. Church is God's people - Jew and Gentile
5. Church called to be a blessing in the earth

B. Notice these themes in Ephesians 2:11-22

V. Applying the Word

A. Quick aside: Learn to interpret Scripture!

1. Many mistakes made on prophetic passages
2. Must interpret in light of Christ, Church
3. Remember OT types and shadows

B. Do we see the folly of looking to the world for strength?

1. Judah tempted to turn to Assyria, Egypt - major snare
2. They needed Judah and her God - not vice-versa
3. Do we look to world for our strength?
4. New technology, music, fads will not save
5. Church must preach Gospel - it will save
 - a. It can turn enemies into God's people
 - b. It can turn mockers into worshippers
 - c. We need to simply announce Good News

C. Do we see we are sent to nations as blessing?

1. God has commissioned us to go
2. We will go, or they will come!

D. Communion - Gratitude and Re-dedication to task

The Day of Redemption for the Nations

Isaiah 19:16-25
 Ephesians 2:11-22
 July 19, 2009
 Communion
 Isaiah 19:25 paraphrase

In that day the Egyptians will be like women. They will shudder with fear at the uplifted hand that the LORD Almighty raises against them. 17 And the land of Judah will bring terror to the Egyptians; everyone to whom Judah is mentioned will be terrified, because of what the LORD Almighty is planning against them. 18 In that day five cities in Egypt will speak the language of Canaan and swear allegiance to the LORD Almighty. One of them will be called the City of Destruction. 19 In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the heart of Egypt, and a monument to the LORD at its border. 20 It will be a sign and witness to the LORD Almighty in the land of Egypt. When they cry out to the LORD because of their oppressors, he will send them a savior and defender, and he will rescue them. 21 So the LORD will make himself known to the Egyptians, and in that day they will acknowledge the LORD. They will worship with sacrifices and grain offerings; they will make vows to the LORD and keep them. 22 The LORD will strike Egypt with a plague; he will strike them and heal them. They will turn to the LORD, and he will respond to their pleas and heal them. 23 In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria. The Assyrians will go to Egypt and the Egyptians to Assyria. The Egyptians and Assyrians will worship together. 24 In that day Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing on the earth. 25 The LORD Almighty will bless them, saying, "Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance." Isaiah 19:16-25

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)-- 12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Ephesians 2:11-22