

Isaiah 13 New King James Version

Proclamation Against Babylon

13 The burden^[a] against Babylon which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw.

2 "Lift up a banner on the high mountain,
Raise your voice to them;
Wave your hand, that they may enter the gates of the nobles.

3 I have commanded My ^[b]sanctified ones;
I have also called My mighty ones for My anger—
Those who rejoice in My exaltation."

4 The noise of a multitude in the mountains,
Like that of many people!
A tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together!
The LORD of hosts musters
The army for battle.

5 They come from a far country,
From the end of heaven—
The LORD and His ^[c]weapons of indignation,
To destroy the whole land.

6 Wail, for the day of the LORD *is* at hand!
It will come as destruction from the Almighty.

7 Therefore all hands will be limp,
Every man's heart will melt,

8 And they will be afraid.
Pangs^[d] and sorrows will take hold of *them*;
They will be in pain as a woman in childbirth;
They will be amazed at one another;
Their faces *will be like* flames.

9 Behold, the day of the LORD comes,
Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger,

- To lay the land desolate;
And He will destroy its sinners from it.
- 10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations
Will not give their light;
The sun will be darkened in its going forth,
And the moon will not cause its light to shine.
- 11 "I will punish the world for *its* evil,
And the wicked for their iniquity;
I will halt the arrogance of the proud,
And will lay low the haughtiness of the ^[e]terrible.
- 12 I will make a mortal more rare than fine gold,
A man more than the golden wedge of Ophir.
- 13 Therefore I will shake the heavens,
And the earth will move out of her place,
In the wrath of the LORD of hosts
And in the day of His fierce anger.
- 14 It shall be as the hunted gazelle,
And as a sheep that no man ^[f]takes up;
Every man will turn to his own people,
And everyone will flee to his own land.
- 15 Everyone who is found will be thrust through,
And everyone who is captured will fall by the sword.
- 16 Their children also will be dashed to pieces before their eyes;
Their houses will be plundered
And their wives ravished.
- 17 "Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them,
Who will not ^[g]regard silver;
And *as for* gold, they will not delight in it.
- 18 Also *their* bows will dash the young men to pieces,
And they will have no pity on the fruit of the womb;
Their eye will not spare children.
- 19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms,
The beauty of the Chaldeans' pride,
Will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.
- 20 It will never be inhabited,
Nor will it be settled from generation to generation;
Nor will the Arabian pitch tents there,
Nor will the shepherds make their sheepfolds there.
- 21 But wild beasts of the desert will lie there,

And their houses will be full of ^[h]owls;
Ostriches will dwell there,
And wild goats will caper there.
22 The hyenas will howl in their citadels,
And jackals in their pleasant palaces.
Her time *is* near to come,
And her days will not be prolonged."

Footnotes

- a. [Isaiah 13:1](#) *oracle, prophecy*
- b. [Isaiah 13:3](#) *consecrated or set apart*
- c. [Isaiah 13:5](#) *Or instruments*
- d. [Isaiah 13:8](#) *Sharp pains*
- e. [Isaiah 13:11](#) *Or tyrants*
- f. [Isaiah 13:14](#) *gathers*
- g. [Isaiah 13:17](#) *esteem*
- h. [Isaiah 13:21](#) *Or howling creatures*

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