

*Self-centeredness is the first step to an eventual abrupt fall.

*The Mercy of the Lord reveals God's greatness.

*Isaiah 14:1 For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and <u>will still choose Israel</u>, and settle them in their own land. The strangers will be joined with them, and they will cling to the house of Jacob. 2 Then people will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess them for servants and maids in the land of the LORD; they will take them captive whose captives they were, and rule over their oppressors.

1. V:1 God will still choose Israel.

Some think God was stuck with a people if he had a chance to choose he would choose differently. Not so, His love and mercy endure forever. He did not replace Israel with the Church.

2. V:2 Ruling over our oppressors is so futuristic that it's hard to handle.

Ephesians 4:7-8 He first descended into the lower parts of the earth and then Jesus ascended into heaven with those who were held captive. This is what Jesus did while in the grave for three days.

*Improper treatment of people is not taken lightly by God.

*Isaiah 14:3 It shall come to pass in the day the LORD gives you rest from your sorrow, and from your fear and the hard bondage in which you were made to serve, 4 that you will take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say: "How the oppressor has ceased, The golden city ceased! 5 The LORD has broken the staff of the wicked, The scepter of the rulers; 6 He who struck the people in wrath with a continual stroke, He who ruled the nations in anger, Is persecuted and no one hinders. 7 The whole earth is at rest and quiet; They break forth into singing. 8 Indeed the cypress trees rejoice over you, And the cedars of Lebanon, Saying, 'Since you were cut down, No woodsman has come up against us.' 9 "Hell from beneath is excited about you, To meet you at your coming; It stirs up the dead for you, All the chief ones of the earth; It has raised up from their thrones All the kings of the nations. 10 They all shall speak and say to you: 'Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us? 11 Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, And the sound of your stringed instruments; The maggot is spread under you, And worms cover you.'

1. V:3-4 There is a day of rest from sorrows.

This was targeted especially for Israel and 100 years in the future when they go into captivity. But God is the same today and He was then and a day of rest is coming to all who believe.

2. V:5-6 If you persecute people, no one will be sad at your downfall or destruction.

This was a warning to Babylon in the future <u>but it's also a warning to all of today</u>. We are not the judge nor should we oppress anyone. This is a powerful Word from God to the secular rulers of today and the Christian leader.

3. V:7-11 Make sure Hell is not anticipating your arrival.

People rejoice when the wicked are no more. <u>Hell rejoices when a new arrival</u> comes that is like themselves.

*Self-centeredness and pride are revealed through the will.

You who weakened the nations! 13 For you have said in your heart: <u>I will ascend</u> into heaven, <u>I will exalt my throne above</u> the stars of God; <u>I will also sit on</u> the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; 14 <u>I will ascend above</u> the heights of the clouds, <u>I will be like the Most High</u>.' 15 Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit. 16 "Those who see you will gaze at you, And consider you, saying: 'Is this the man who made the earth tremble, Who shook kingdoms,

17 Who made the world as a wilderness And destroyed its cities, Who did not open the house of his prisoners?' 18 "All the kings of the nations, All of them, sleep in glory, Everyone in his own house;

19 But you are cast out of your grave Like an abominable branch, Like the garment of those who are slain, Thrust through with a sword, Who go down to the stones of the pit, Like a corpse trodden underfoot. 20 You will not be joined with them in burial, Because you have destroyed your land And slain your people. The brood of evildoers shall never be named. 21 Prepare slaughter for his children Because of the iniquity of their fathers, Lest they rise up and possess the land, And fill the face of the world with cities."

1. V:12 Your heart can deceive you, through self-centeredness, a misplaced trust is in yourself.

2.	V:13-14 Self-centered and prideful is Luciter.			
	A.	The Devil be	elieves	
	B.	Believes he		
	C.	Believes he		
	D.	Believes he		
	F	Believes he		

- 3. V:15-21 Satan and his punishment.
- A. Satan did fall from his glorified position to an evil one. Ezekiel 28:11-19.

Luke 10:18 Jesus saw this fall and this is the only fall of Satan that has already happened.

- B. Satan will fall from having access to heaven and be restricted to earth. Revelation 12:9.
- C. Satan will fall for a third time for 1,000 years into a bottomless pit. Revelation 20:1-3
- D. Satan's final fall as mentioned in V:12 will be for eternity in the lake of fire. Revelation 20:10

*God removes all protection from self-centered nations, people, & fallen angels.

*Isaiah 14:22 "For I will rise up against them," says the LORD of hosts, "And cut off from Babylon the name and remnant, And offspring and posterity," says the LORD. 23 "I will also make it a possession for the porcupine, And marshes of muddy water; I will sweep it with the broom of destruction," says the LORD of hosts. 24 The LORD of hosts has sworn, saying, "Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, And as I have purposed, so it shall stand: 25 That I will break the Assyrian in My land, And on My mountains tread him underfoot. Then his yoke shall be removed from them, And his burden removed from their shoulders. 26 This is the purpose that is purposed against the whole earth, And this is the hand that is stretched out over all the nations. 27 For the LORD of hosts has purposed, And who will annul it? His hand is stretched out, And who will turn it back?" 28 This is the burden which came in the year that King Ahaz died. 29 "Do not rejoice, all you of Philistia, Because the rod that struck you is broken; For out of the serpent's roots will come forth a viper, And its offspring will be a fiery flying serpent. 30 The firstborn of the poor will feed, And the needy will lie down in safety; I will kill your roots with famine, And it will slay your remnant. 31 Wail, O gate! Cry, O city! All you of Philistia are dissolved; For smoke will come from the north, And no one will be alone in his appointed times." 32 What will they answer the messengers of the nation? That the LORD has founded Zion, And the poor of His people shall take refuge in it.

- 1. **Don't rejoice when you see** other people groups come under judgment.
 - A. The Babylonians, Assyrians, and Philistines all come under judgment.
 - B. The Philistia would boast when God chastised Israel and God says you should not rejoice at the Lord's hand of judgment, wrath, or discipline of anyone.
- **2 Corinthians 11:14** Satan transforms himself into an angel of light. We must be careful that the light we shine is Jesus', not ours's or anyone other than Him.
- The Lord established Zion which is often forgotten by all.What God establishes His people are smart to take refuge in it.