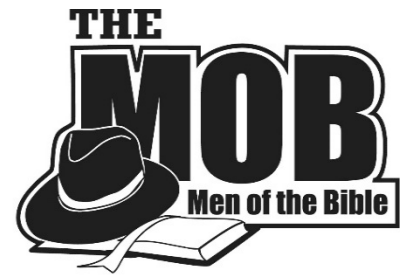


WELCOME TO THE MOB!

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)

Welcome to the MOB!



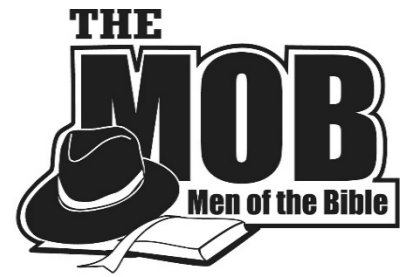
- MOB Website & Resources | www.ibcmob.net
- Christmas Concerts | 7 Dec, 7:30pm; 8 Dec, 7:30pm; 9 Dec, 2pm; 10 Dec, 5pm
- Reduced Sunday Worship Services | 24 Dec & 31 Dec, only 9:30am and 11:10am services

Please Rise

- **Invocation/Prayer**
- **Let Us Sing – “This Is My Father’s World”**

This Is My Father's World

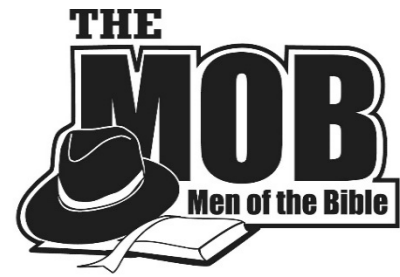
1 of 3



**This is my Father's world,
And to my list'ning ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas—
His hand the wonders wrought.**

This Is My Father's World

2 of 3

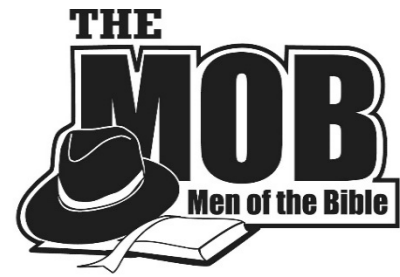


**This is my Father's world:
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.**

**This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.**

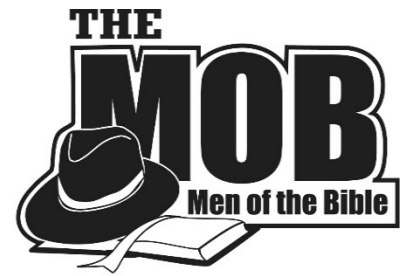
This Is My Father's World

3 of 3



**This is my Father's world:
Oh, let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world,
The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and Heav'n be one.**

Our Isaiah Study



Last Meeting:

- **Isaiah 46: Idols Found Wanting; YHWH Found Faithful**
- **Memory Verse: Isaiah 46: 9-10**
- **Dr. Constable's Notes, pp. 319-322; Motyer, pp. 367-371**
- **Refreshment Host: Group B**

This Meeting:

- **Isaiah 47**
- **Memory Verse: Isaiah 47:10**
- **Dr. Constable's Notes, pp. 322-328; Motyer, pp. 371-375**
- **Refreshment Host: Group C**

Memory Verse

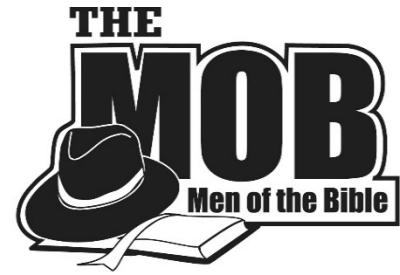
Isaiah 47:10 (ESV)


**You felt secure in your wickedness;
you said, “No one sees me”;
your wisdom and your knowledge led you astray,
and you said in your heart,
“I am, and there is no one besides me.”**

Isaiah 47:10 (ESV)



Isaiah Outline



Focus	Prophecies of Condemnation								Historical Parenthesis				Prophecies of Comfort							
	1:1		35:10						36:1		39:8		40:1		66:24					
Divisions	Prophecies Against Judah		Prophecies Against the Nation		Prophecies Against the Day of the Lord		Prophecies of Judgement and Blessing		Sickness and Sin		Hezekiah's Salvation		Israel's Deliverance		Israel's Deliverer		Israel's Glorious Future			
													40:1							
Topics	Prophetic Judgement								Historic Transition				Messianic Hope							
																				
Place	Israel & Judah								You Are Here!											
Time	740 - 680 B.C.																			

Summary | Isaiah 46

Babylon's Idols Found Wanting (Isaiah 46:1-2)

YHWH Found Faithful (Isaiah 46:3-13)

A Queen



London





Babylon



Babylon – The Queen

- Babylon portrayed as a Queen who has been deposed
- But she is a city...with a personality of her own
 - Much like Jerusalem or Ninevah
- She no longer has the “trappings” of a Queen
- No staff to do her work...She must work for her keep
- Why was she deposed?
 - She lacked compassion
 - Pride...Her hubris led her to believe that she would rule forever.

Isaiah 47

Babylon's Humiliation (47:1–4)

Babylon's False Pride (47:5–11)

Babylon's Helplessness (47:12–15)

Isaiah 47:1-4

Babylon's Humiliation

¹ Come down and sit in the dust,
O virgin daughter of Babylon;
sit on the ground without a throne,
O daughter of the Chaldeans!
For you shall no more be called
tender and delicate.

² Take the millstones and grind flour,
put off your veil,
strip off your robe, uncover your legs,
pass through the rivers.

³ Your nakedness shall be uncovered,
and your disgrace shall be seen.
I will take vengeance,
and I will spare no one.

“The city and the empire are depicted as delicate and dainty, as a virgin, a young woman of fastidious and luxurious tastes, who has never had to face the harsh side of life. Now that is all ending, and no one will ever describe her in those terms again.” John N. Oswalt



Isaiah 47:1-4

Babylon's Humiliation

**⁴ Our Redeemer—
the LORD of hosts is his
name—is the Holy One of
Israel.**

“Here is power, power almost beyond comprehension: power to defend, power to deliver, power to revive, power to renew. Yes, he is the Holy One of Israel in regard to Assyria, and he is also the Holy One of Israel in regard to Babylon. Circumstances may change; he changes never. Praise his name!”

- John N. Oswalt

Isaiah 47:5-6

Babylon's False Pride

**⁵ Sit in silence, and go into darkness,
O daughter of the Chaldeans;
for you shall no more be called
the mistress of kingdoms.**

**⁶ I was angry with my people;
I profaned my heritage;
I gave them into your hand;
you showed them no mercy;
on the aged you made your yoke
exceedingly heavy.**

“The only reason Babylon had been able to capture Judah...was that God permitted it. Babylon was not the mistress of her own fate, let alone Judah’s. God alone is the master of all fates.”

- John N. Oswalt

“The Lord had his purposes but Babylonian action, while formally within the will of God, was an offence to him.”

- Motyer

– pitilessness (*no mercy, 6d*)

– indiscriminateness (*on the aged, 6e*)

Isaiah 47:7

Babylon's False Pride

**⁷ You said, “I shall be mistress forever,”
so that you did not lay these things to heart
or remember their end.**

- arrogance (*mistress...forever, 7ab*)
- absence of moral sense (*to heart ... remember, 7cd*).

“Believing that she would rule the world forever, she did not consider that she might be held accountable for the way she treated captive peoples. Believing that she herself was the highest tribunal, she paid no attention to the results of the choices she was making day by day.”

- John N. Oswalt

Isaiah 47:8-9

Babylon's False Pride

⁸ Now therefore hear this, you lover of pleasures, who sit securely, who say in your heart, “I am, and there is no one besides me; I shall not sit as a widow or know the loss of children”:

⁹ These two things shall come to you in a moment, in one day; the loss of children and widowhood shall come upon you in full measure, in spite of your many sorceries and the great power of your enchantments.

- **Babylon felt that they were superior to all**
- **Sorceries and enchantments - their pantheon of many gods.**
- **“Now therefore hear this...” is the beginning of a proclamation of judgement.**
- **Isaiah continues with the womanhood metaphor**
 - **Widowhood – loss of support**
 - **Childless – alone in the world**

Isaiah 47:10-11

Babylon's False Pride

¹⁰ You felt secure in your wickedness; you said, “No one sees me”; your wisdom and your knowledge led you astray, and you said in your heart, “I am, and there is no one besides me.”¹¹ But evil shall come upon you, which you will not know how to charm away; disaster shall fall upon you, for which you will not be able to atone; and ruin shall come upon you suddenly, of which you know nothing.

- **Wickedness - Magical Knowledge to Manipulate?**
- **Beyond questioning**

“God is transcendent and no amount of manipulation of his creation can produce automatic results for the manipulator.” - John N. Oswalt

Isaiah 47:12-13

Babylon's Helplessness

12 Stand fast in your enchantments and your many sorceries, with which you have labored from your youth; perhaps you may be able to succeed; perhaps you may inspire terror.

13 You are wearied with your many counsels; let them stand forth and save you, those who divide the heavens, who gaze at the stars, who at the new moons make known what shall come upon you.

“Babylon had sought wisdom to guide its future (counsel) more assiduously than any nation in the ancient world. It had looked everywhere, from the entrails of sacrificial animals to the movements of the constellations.”

- John N. Oswalt

“Astrologers/“those who divide the heavens’ refers to ‘the Babylonian division of the heavens into segments in order to study the movement of the heavenly bodies across the sky and from these to predict earthly events.”

- J. A. Motyer



Isaiah 47:14-15

Babylon's Helplessness

**¹⁴ Behold, they are like stubble;
the fire consumes them;
they cannot deliver themselves
from the power of the flame.**

**No coal for warming oneself is this,
no fire to sit before!**

**¹⁵ Such to you are those with whom you
have labored,
who have done business with you
from your youth;
they wander about, each in his own
direction;
there is no one to save you.**

“This is the picture of the dissolution of an army: as defeat overtakes it, discipline begins to break down, and what was once a great force simply dissipates. It does not so much collapse as dissolve, as each person wanders off to seek his own survival.”

- John N. Oswalt

Summary

- **Humility**
- **Pride**
- **God's Sovereignty**

Next Meeting

Review:

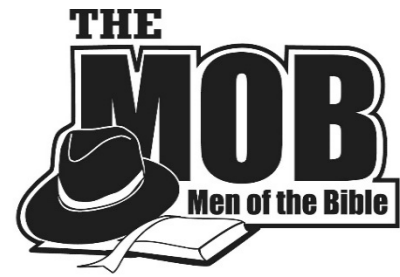
- **Isaiah 47**
- **Memory Verse: Isaiah 47:10**
- **Dr. Constable's Notes, pp. 322-328; Motyer, pp. 371-375**

Study:

- **Isaiah 48**
- **Memory Verse: Isaiah 48:10-11**
- **Dr. Constable's Notes, pp. 328-335; Motyer, pp. 375-382**
- **Refreshment Host: Group D**

Questions & Application

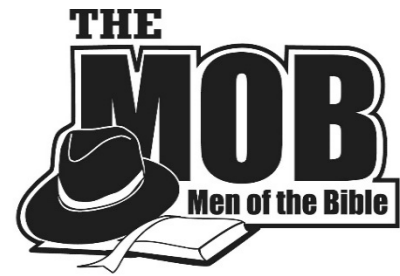
Lowell's Questions



- **How is Babylon depicted in this chapter, and what do the images imply concerning the nature of her downfall to come?**
- **How did the “children of Israel” end up in this dire predicament in the first place (by the way!)?**
- **What are the implications of the Lord’s summons for “the daughter of Babylon to sit on the ground,” rather than “on the throne;” to “remove her veil” (and other apparel); and to “take two millstones and grind grain,” etc.?**
- **How does Isaiah describe how Babylon treated her Israeli captives, and God’s response?**
- **How do the three names for God (in verse 4) explain His authority, will, and ability to deal with Babylon on Israel’s behalf?**

Questions & Application

Lowell's Questions



- **What so significant about the Babylonians “saying in their heart” (in verse 8) that “I am, and there is no one besides me”—and why might this have been particularly offensive to God?**
- **In what way did their “wisdom and self-professed knowledge” delude their thinking—and how might this apply to our day?**
- **How did God challenge their use of, and trust in, witchcraft and sorceries (including astrology), and how have these practices carried over into our world, with what consequences?**
- **How does Daniel describe the disaster which would “suddenly” come upon Babylon?**
- **What does the Bible have to say about an even greater downfall of a revived Babylon in a day yet to come? Are we there?**
- **What might you take with you from this lesson?**

Closing

- **Benediction**
- **Small Groups**

