

<sup>10</sup> For a fortified city is solitary,  
 a deserted and forsaken habitation, like the wilderness;  
 a calf grazes there, and there it lies down  
 and consumes its branches.

<sup>11</sup> When its branches are dry, they are broken.  
 Women come, light fires with them.

For they are a people without understanding;  
 therefore, their Maker will not have compassion on them;  
 their Fashioner will show them no favor.

<sup>12</sup> And in that day, the LORD will thresh out the grain from the  
 river to the wadi of Egypt,  
 and you will be gathered one by one, O people of Israel.

<sup>13</sup> And in that day a great ram's horn will be blown,  
 and those lost in the land of Assyria  
 and those scattered in the land of Egypt will come,  
 and they will worship the LORD  
 on the holy mountain, in Jerusalem.

#### ISAIAH PROPHECIES OF THE DESTRUCTION OF EPHRAIM (28:1-8)

**Isaiah**

**28** Woe crown of the pride of the drunkards of Ephraim,  
 and the fading flower of its glorious beauty,  
 which is at the head of a fertile valley,  
 to those who are overcome with wine.

<sup>2</sup> Behold, the Lord has one who is mighty and strong, like a hailstorm,  
 a destroying tempest, like a storm of mighty overflowing waters;  
 and with a hand, he casts down to the earth.

<sup>3</sup> The crown of the pride of the drunkards of Ephraim will be  
 trampled underfoot.

<sup>4</sup> And the fading flower of its glorious beauty, which is at the  
 head of a fertile valley,

will be like the early ripe fig before the summer,  
 which one sees, and as soon as it is in his palm, he swallows it.

<sup>5</sup> In that day the LORD of Hosts will be a crown of beauty  
 and a beautiful diadem to the remnant of His people

<sup>6</sup> and a spirit of judgment to him who sits in judgment  
 and strength to those who fend off battle at the gate.

<sup>7</sup> And also these reel with wine  
and stagger with strong drink;  
priest and prophet reel with strong drink;  
they are confused with wine;  
they stagger with strong drink.

They reel in their visions;  
they stumble in their decisions,

<sup>8</sup> for all the tables are full of vomit,  
filth, with no space left.

#### INDIVIDUALS LEARN DOCTRINE LINE UPON LINE (28:9-13)

**Isaiah?** <sup>9</sup> To whom will He teach knowledge?  
Whom will He cause to understand the message?

Those who are weaned from milk;  
those who are taken from breasts.

<sup>10</sup> For it is precept<sup>119</sup> upon precept,  
precept upon precept,

line upon line,  
line upon line,

here a little,  
there a little.

<sup>11</sup> For with stammering lips  
and with another tongue He will speak to this people,

<sup>12</sup> to those whom He has said,

**The LORD** “This is the rest: give rest to the weary”  
and “this is the resting place,”

**Isaiah** but they are not willing to hear.

<sup>13</sup> And the word of the LORD will be to them precept upon  
precept,  
precept upon precept,

line upon line,  
line upon line,

here a little,  
there a little,

---

119. “Precept” can also be translated “command” (from the Hebrew *tzvwh*), hence reading “command upon command, command upon command.”

so that they may go.  
 But they stumbled backward  
 and were broken  
 and snared and captured.

THE OVERFLOWING SCOURGE (28:14-22)

- Isaiah** <sup>14</sup>Therefore, hear the word of the LORD, men of scorning,  
 who rule this people who are in Jerusalem.
- <sup>15</sup>Because you have said,
- Men of scorning** “We have made a covenant with death,  
 and with Sheol, we made an agreement.  
 When an overflowing scourge passes through,  
 it will not come to us,  
 for we have made a lie our place of refuge,  
 and we have taken shelter in falsehood.”
- Isaiah** <sup>16</sup>Therefore, thus the Lord, the LORD says,  
**The LORD** “Behold I am laying a stone in Zion,  
 a tested stone,  
 a precious cornerstone,  
 a sure foundation. He who believes will not have to move.  
<sup>17</sup>And I will make judgment the measuring line  
 and righteousness the plumb line.  
 And hail will sweep away a refuge of lies,  
 and waters will flood a shelter.  
<sup>18</sup>Then your covenant with death will be annulled  
 and your agreement with Sheol will not stand;  
 when the overflowing scourge passes through,  
 then you will be beaten down.  
<sup>19</sup>As often as it passes through it will take you, because morn-  
 ing after morning,  
 by day and by night, it will pass through, and it will be sheer  
 terror to understand the report.”
- Isaiah** <sup>20</sup>For the bed is too short for one to stretch oneself on it,  
 and the blanket too narrow to wrap oneself in it.  
<sup>21</sup>For like Mount Perazim the LORD will rise up;  
 like the valley of Gibeon, He will quake,

to do His work, His strange work,  
and to perform His act, His strange act.

<sup>22</sup> And now, do not scoff,  
lest your bonds be made strong,

because I have heard from the Lord, the LORD of Hosts, a  
decree of destruction upon the whole earth.

#### PARABLE OF THE FARMER (28:23–29)

**Isaiah** <sup>23</sup> Give ear, and hear my voice;  
hearken, and hear my speech.

<sup>24</sup> Does the plowman plow all day,  
breaking up and harrowing his ground for sowing?

<sup>25</sup> Once he has leveled its surface,  
does he not scatter dill and cast cumin?

And he puts wheat in rows,  
and barley in its proper place,  
and spelt around the border?

<sup>26</sup> For He {God} teaches him judgment;  
his God instructs him.

<sup>27</sup> For dill is not threshed with a threshing sledge,  
nor is a cartwheel rolled over cumin,  
but dill is beaten out with a staff  
and cumin with a rod.

<sup>28</sup> Grain is crushed, but the thresher does not thresh it forever.  
When he drives his cartwheel with his horses,  
he does not crush it.

<sup>29</sup> This also goes forth from the LORD of Hosts—  
He provides wonderful counsel;  
He magnifies wisdom.

#### JERUSALEM TO BE BROUGHT DOWN BY THE LORD (29:1–10)

**Isaiah** **29** Woe!<sup>120</sup> O Ariel, Ariel,  
the town where David encamped.

Add year upon year;  
let the festivals go through the cycle.

---

120. Distress will come to Jerusalem's inhabitants because of God's forthcoming judgments.