

Title: *“The Apologetics of the Burden of Moab”*

Sub-Title: *“How Moab’ Fall relates to the Chistian”*

Key Verse of Isaiah 9:6 “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

Key Verse of Apologetics: I Peter 3:15 “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:”

Introduction: As Isaiah continues to reference the day of the Lord and other prophetic events illustrate the accountability and judgement that everyone must realize. Adam Clarke dated Isaiah chapter fifteen at 726 B.C. about fourteen years before the dating of Isaiah chapter fourteen. Also according to Clark’s dating the Creation goes back 4004 B.C. If we were to take a look at those that have been held accountable and judged for their lack of fear of God it would be a long and distinguished list.

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Knight's Notes # 23: - Dr. Andrew Knight

- Eve was deceived and Adam chose to disobey and they were banished from the Garden of Eden.

- Moses murdered a man, and though greatly used of God to bring the Hebrews out of Egypt, was not allowed to go into the Promised Land.

- Although Abraham lobbied God to spare the wrath of God on Sodom and Gomorra, these cities were completely destroyed and all that was in them.

- Lot and whole family could have escaped, but Lot's wife turned back and she was turned to a pillar of salt.

- Seventy nations were completely dispersed at the Tower of Babel because of idolatry.

- Judas Iscariot, after being a trader and turning Jesus in to the Roman soldiers, had his body supernaturally exploded.

- The rich man in hell could not even get a drop of water on his tongue as he refused to acknowledge God during his life.
- The question here in Isaiah fifteen remains, is accountability to God and His judgement relative today, and the coming Day of the Lord?
- If God judged or punished all these people or people groups He will hold this generation accountable, and will not bring judgement on the Day of the Lord. If God would judge Moab He will judge the nations of the earth as He has done so throughout world history.

Text: Isaiah 15:1-9 “The burden of Moab (**of his father**). Because in the night Ar of Moab is laid waste, and brought to silence; because in the night Kir of Moab is laid waste, and brought to silence;”

A. Jerimiah 48:1 “Hear ye this, O house of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel, and are come forth out of the waters of Judah, which swear by the name of the LORD, and make mention of

the God of Israel, but not in truth, nor in righteousness.”

B. Ezekiel 25:8-11 “Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because that Moab and Seir do say, Behold, the house of Judah is like unto all the heathen; Therefore, behold, I will open the side of Moab from the cities, from his cities which are on his frontiers, the glory of the country, Bethjeshimoth, Baalmeon, and Kiriathaim, Unto the men of the east with the Ammonites, and will give them in possession, that the Ammonites may not be remembered among the nations. And I will execute judgments upon Moab; and they shall know that I am the LORD.”

C. Amos 2:1 “Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Moab, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime:”

1. At Moab's judgment he will be silenced.
2. The Lord's name will be remembered.
3. Moab was judged for his lack of relationship with the Lord.
4. Moab was judged for his sins against the Lord.

V. 2 “He is gone up to Bajith, {bah'-yith} (house) and to Dibon, the high places, to weep: Moab shall howl over Nebo, and over Medeba: on all their heads shall be baldness, and every beard cut off.”

A. Numbers 21:28 “For there is a fire gone out of Heshbon, a flame from the city of Sihon: it hath consumed Ar of Moab, and the lords of the high places of Arnon.”

B. Leviticus 21:5 “They shall not make baldness upon their head, neither shall they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make any cuttings in their flesh.”

C. **Isaiah 22:12** “And in that day did the Lord GOD of hosts call to weeping, and to mourning, and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth:”

D. **Jerimiah 47:5** “Baldness is come upon Gaza; Ashkelon is cut off with the remnant of their valley: how long wilt thou cut thyself?”

E. **Jerimiah 48:1** “Against Moab thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Woe unto Nebo! for it is spoiled: Kiriathaim is confounded and taken: Misgab is confounded and dismayed.”

F. **Ezekiel 7:18** “They shall also gird themselves with sackcloth, and horror shall cover them; and shame shall be upon all faces, and baldness upon all their heads.”

1. There seems to be a divine probation of shaving one's head according to the prophet Isaiah.

2. Leviticus points out the probation of not only head shaving, but shaving the sides of ones beard, and cutting or marking the skin.
3. These probations are likely because of the pagan tendencies.
4. The judgment of Moab will bring weeping and mourning.

Vs. 3 “In their streets they shall gird themselves with sackcloth: on the tops of their houses, and in their streets, every one shall howl, weeping abundantly.”

- **Jerimiah 48:38** “There shall be lamentation generally upon all the housetops of Moab, and in the streets thereof: for I have broken Moab like a vessel wherein is no pleasure, saith the LORD.”

1. The judgment of Moab will bring much regret.
2. The Lord did not take pleasure in judging Moab.

Vs. 4 “And Heshbon shall cry, and Elealeh: {el-aw-lay'} (God is ascending) their voice shall be heard even unto Jahaz: therefore the armed soldiers of Moab shall cry out; his life shall be grievous unto him.”

A. Isaiah 16:9 “Therefore I will bewail with the weeping of Jazer the vine of Sibmah: I will water thee with my tears, O Heshbon, and Elealeh: for the shouting for thy summer fruits and for thy harvest is fallen.”

B. Jerimiah 48:31 “Therefore will I howl for Moab, and I will cry out for all Moab; mine heart shall mourn for the men of Kirheres.”

1. The judgment of Moab will be grievous.
2. The judgment will cause much weeping.
3. The reference of the loss of the harvest may simply illustrate the personal loss.

4. This judgment will cause mourning of the great loss...eternal loss...

Vs. 5 “My heart shall cry out for Moab; his fugitives shall flee unto Zoar, an heifer of three years old: for by the mounting up of Luhith with weeping shall they go it up; for in the way of Horonaim {kho-ro-nah'-yim} (two claws) they shall raise up a cry of destruction.

A. Isaiah 16:11 “Wherefore my bowels shall sound like an harp for Moab, and mine inward parts for Kirharesh.”

B. Isaiah 16:14 “But now the LORD hath spoken, saying, Within three years, as the years of an hireling, and the glory of Moab shall be contemned, with all that great multitude; and the remnant shall be very small and feeble.”

C. Jerimiah 48:34 “From the cry of Heshbon even unto Elealeh, and even unto Jahaz, have they uttered their voice, from Zoar even unto Horonaim, as an heifer of three years old: for the waters also of Nimrim shall be desolate.”

D. Jerimiah 48:5 “For in the going up of Luhith continual weeping shall go up; for in the going down of Horonaim the enemies have heard a cry of destruction.”

1. Crying will respond to the profound destruction brought on Moab.
2. Isaiah prophecies that people will be physically sick from morning the judgment.

Vs. 6 “For the waters of Nimrim {nim-reem'} (pure) shall be desolate: for the hay is withered away, the grass faileth, there is no green thing.”

- **Numbers 32:36** “And Bethnimrah, and Bethharan, fenced cities: and folds for sheep.”

1. Another agrarian reference points to the severity of this judgment. If one cannot eat they cannot live.
2. If sheep cannot eat then they will die.

Vs. 7 “Therefore the abundance they have gotten, and that which they have laid up, shall they carry away to the brook of the willows.”

Vs. 8 “For the cry is gone round about the borders of Moab; the howling thereof unto Eglaim, and the howling thereof unto Beerelim {be-ayr' ay-leem'} (well of God).”

Vs. 9 “For the waters of Dimon {dee-mone'} (river bed) shall be full of blood: for I will bring more upon Dimon, lions upon him that escapeth of Moab, and upon the remnant of the land.”

- **II Kings 17:25** “And so it was at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they feared not the LORD: therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which slew some of them.”
 1. The theme of this passage is to acknowledge God, honor Him, and avoid His judgment.
 2. The fear of the Lord means to obey God’s Word, God’s commands and statutes.
 3. The fear of the Lord is to obey the indwelling Holy Spirit, and the Spirits leading in your life.

Applications:

1. Call now to begin your personal relationship with Jesus Christ!
2. Download Knight's Notes on: [Excellent Way.tv](http://ExcellentWay.tv).
3. Read Isaiah chapter sixteen before we get together again.
4. Invite me to come and teach on apologetics at your church.
5. Share www.ExcellentWay.tv on you social media.
6. Subscribe to our YouTube channel, Dr. Andrew Knight, and share the videos with everyone.

Where we began:

- We began with some biblical examples of God judging people and whole cities.
- We discussed the judgment and burden of Moab.
- We saw the destruction of the judgment of God.
- Finally we discussed the ways to avoid God's judgement.

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Next time:

- We will look at Isaiah chapter sixteen.
- And we will make apologetic applications from Isaiah chapter sixteen.