

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

**Sub-Title:** *“Moab and the Day of the Lord”*

**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:** To put the message of Isaiah chapter sixteen in perspective we are looking back to events in 726 BC relative to Moab, and relating these events to our Christian lives in 2019 in the Western hemisphere and culture, and then applying both to the future event of the Day of the Lord.

For further context Moab was the offspring of the elder daughter of Lot. The people Moab ruled were called the Moabites, and was located on the Eastern shore of the Dead Sea. Ammon was the offspring of Lot's younger daughter. The people that Ammon ruled were called the Amorites, which was located in the southern Mesopotamia.

Looking at Isaiah chapter sixteen from a broader perspective there are two major parts to this chapter. Dr. Thomas Strouse stated, "Judgment on Moab continued in this chapter, as refugees in Sela (Petra) wanted resettlement in Judah but was denied (vv. 1-11)." Strouse further described the second part of the chapter this way, "The glory of Moab will be brought low, the Lord promised (vv. 12-14)."

Isaiah the prophet penned this chapter under inspiration of the Holy Spirit for at least three reasons. First, the recording of the judgment of Moab serves as a warning to every person that they must have their sins

forgiven, and that our lives are accountable to the Lord. Second, we again observe the character of our Lord and how He deals with mankind. This example and others should convince all how the Lord will deal with us, and that we would respond accordingly. Third, we again have this event recorded for us in Isaiah that points us to the Day of the Lord.

It should also be noted as we see these people groups in Isaiah and elsewhere in the Bible we should understand that as human character, or weak character is depicted that human character is the same today. Furthermore, it should be stated that no amount of medical, technological, or any other advancement will ever change the human heart condition, or the flawed character of humanity. It is a fool's errand to ever, for a moment to think that human beings are beyond the desperate need for the saving, and life changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**Text: Isaiah 16:1-14**

**I. Moab became an outcast in Sela (Petra). Vss. 1-5**

“Send ye the lamb to the ruler of the land from Sela to the wilderness, unto the mount of the daughter of Zion.

**A. II Kings 3:4** “And Mesha king of Moab was a sheepmaster, and rendered unto the king of Israel an hundred thousand lambs, and an hundred thousand rams, with the wool.”

**B. II Kings 14:7** “He slew of Edom in the valley of salt ten thousand, and took Selah by war, and called the name of it Joktheel unto this day.”

1. I would seem as though Moab first used a lobbying approach by sending the king of Israel 100,000 lambs.

2. That did not work so than Moab took Petra by force.

**Vs. 2** For it shall be, that, as a wandering bird cast out of the nest, so the daughters of Moab shall be at the fords of Arnon.

**A. Numbers 21:13** “From thence they removed, and pitched on the other side of Arnon, which is in the wilderness that cometh out of the coasts of the Amorites: for Arnon is the border of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites.”

1. Moabites plan had failed and sent them into the wilderness.
2. There is a river that divides the Amorites from the Moabites.
3. The fords of Arnon are referred to as the Grand Cannon of Jordan.

**Vs. 3** Take counsel, execute judgment; make thy shadow as the night in the midst of the noonday; hide the outcasts; bewray not him that wandereth.

1). The lesson for the believer is before one makes a big decision seek godly counsel.

2). The tragedy of becoming a spiritual outcast could put any believer in the wilderness.

**Vs. 4** Let mine outcasts dwell with thee, Moab; be thou a covert to them from the face of the spoiler: for the extortioner is at an end, the spoiler ceaseth, the oppressors are consumed out of the land.

**Vs. 5** And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness.”

**A. Daniel 7:14** “And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass

away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.”

**B. Daniel 7:27** “And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.”

**C. Micah 4:7** “And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.”

**D. Luke 1:33** “And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.”

1). It is the Word of God, not kings of men that will ultimately judge humanity.

2). True and complete justice will come from the Lord Jesus Christ from the Tabernacle in Jerusalem.

3). Jesus Christ, not kings will establish an everlasting kingdom.

## **II. The Downfall of Moab. Vss. 6-11**

**Vs. 6** We have heard of the pride of Moab; he is very proud: even of his haughtiness, and his pride, and his wrath: but his lies shall not be so.

**Vs. 7** Therefore shall Moab howl for Moab, every one shall howl: for the foundations of Kirhareseth shall ye mourn; surely they are stricken.

**Vs. 8** For the fields of Heshbon languish, and the vine of Sibmah: the lords of the heathen have broken down the principal plants thereof, they are come even unto Jazer, they wandered through the wilderness: her branches are stretched out, they are gone over the sea.



**Vs. 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.

**Vs. 10** And gladness is taken away, and joy out of the plentiful field; and in the vineyards there shall be no singing, neither shall there be shouting: the treaders shall tread out no wine in their presses; I have made their vintage shouting to cease.

**Vs. 11** Wherefore my bowels shall sound like an harp for Moab, and mine inward parts for Kirharesh.

- a.) The pride and deceitfulness of anyone God puts in office is an offence to the Lord, and like Moab judgment will be severe.
- b.) The punishment for judgment brought moaning on Moab, and will bring sadness to all who are judged for their sins.

- c.) The judgment of Moab brought financial losses to him. The wages of sins are not only spiritual but often bring about financial ruin to people's lives.
- d.) The judgment of Moab brought him much loss of joy, and delivered much sadness.

### **III. The glory of Moab was removed. Vss. 12-14**

**Vs. 12** And it shall come to pass, when it is seen that Moab is weary on the high place, that he shall come to his sanctuary to pray; but he shall not prevail.

**Vs. 13** This is the word that the LORD hath spoken concerning Moab since that time.

**Vs. 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.”

**A. James 4:6** “But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.”

1. Moab had allowed pride to come between he and the Lord.
2. The Word of God has dealt with the sin of pride.
3. The Lord stands ready to receive those that will repent and turn to Him.
  - a.) **John 3:3** “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”
  - b.) **Romans 10:13** “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

## **Applications:**

1. Call now: **877-411-5300** to begin your personal relationship with Jesus Christ!
2. Download Knight's Notes on: Excellent Way.tv.
3. Read Isaiah chapter seventeen before we get together again.
4. Allow me to come and teach apologetics at your church or conference.
5. Share [www.ExcellentWay.tv](http://www.ExcellentWay.tv) on you social media.
6. Subscribe to our YouTube channel, Dr. Andrew Knight, and share the videos with everyone.
7. Download our new podcast, "Apologetics Now" on your iTunes and iRadio.

**Where we began:**

- We began with the past, current, western culture, and future Day of the Lord perspectives relative to Moab.
- We discussed how the character of Moab relates to everyone's human character.
- We saw the devastation of being an outcast, and how this relates to the results of the sin of pride.
- We discussed the importance of seeking godly counsel to avoid a wilderness experience.
- We also discussed that Jesus stands ready for us to turn from our sins in repentance and accept Christ as our personal Saviour.

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**Next time:**

- We will look at Isaiah chapter seventeen.
- Look at the burden of Damascus.
- And we will make apologetic applications from Isaiah chapter seventeen.