

Fact Sheet for **"The Fruit of Your Deeds"**
Isaiah 3:10-11

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In Isaiah's day it was a rough time for the Jewish people. Their two nations were at war with an aggressor who was far stronger, Assyria. The northern nation, Israel, would fall. Life for them would be shredded. The Assyrian army would then make inroads into Judah and eventually surround Jerusalem. Isaiah was the prophet, sent by God to Judah. His message for them was largely was one of judgment. Listen to his words in **Isaiah 2:6-9**.

⁶ For you have rejected your people,
the house of Jacob,
because they are full of things from the east
and of fortune-tellers like the Philistines,
and they strike hands with the children of
foreigners.

⁷ Their land is filled with silver and gold,
and there is no end to their treasures;
their land is filled with horses,
and there is no end to their chariots.

⁸ Their land is filled with idols;
they bow down to the work of their hands,
to what their own fingers have made.

⁹ So man is humbled,
and each one is brought low—
do not forgive them!

In **Isaiah 2:19** he uses words that are later echoed by John the Apostle.

¹⁹ And people shall enter the caves of the rocks
and the holes of the ground,
from before the terror of the LORD,
and from the splendor of his majesty,
when he rises to terrify the earth.

ESV Revelation 6:15-17 Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, ¹⁷ for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"

As chapter 3 opens Isaiah goes on to say that God will take away from Jerusalem and Judah their experienced leaders and give them instead unqualified, inexperienced, and foolish leaders.

It was a dark time for Judah and Jerusalem. But in the middle of this God gives a ray of hope, something that can encourage us today.

Isaiah 3:10

**¹⁰ Tell the righteous that it shall be well with them,
for they shall eat the fruit of their deeds.**

Isaiah 3:11

**¹¹ Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him,
for what his hands have dealt out shall be done to
him.**

Read those words again.

There is thought and emotion in these words. Verse 10 is contemplative and comforting while verse 11 is heated and condemning.

This is not just God reporting that things will work out this way by chance. These things will happen this way because of God's purposed design. God will protect the righteous and punish the wicked, in this life!

There could be no better defense from the Assyrian invaders.

The Scriptures often speak of blessings for righteousness (Psalm 1:1-6; Proverbs 3:5-6; Hebrews 11:6).

These blessings come not only in eternity; they also come in this life.

We live in a world with multiple sources of worry (the dollar, ebola, Isis, the Register Guard this morning reporting on Islamic militants).

We have multiple sources of concern in our own lives (health care, personal finances, unexpected expenses).

What is our best defense?

Isaiah 3:10

**¹⁰ Tell the righteous that it shall be well with them,
for they shall eat the fruit of their deeds.**

This doesn't guarantee that everything will run the way we desire (cf. Job). But neither do some of the circumstances of life void God's promise of blessing for the righteous.

Trust Him! Be righteous! Seek Him! Meditate on His Word! And you will eat the fruit of your deeds.