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The LORD's Anger Against Isra'el 9:8 to 10:4



There are three more sections left in the book of **Immanuel**. **Isaiah himself** set the stage for the remaining three sections back in **Chapter 8 verse 18**. **Here am I, and the children the LORD has given me. We are signs and symbols in Isra'el from ADONAI-Tzva'ot, who dwells on Mount Zion (8:18)**. His name and the names of **his sons** were signs and symbols to **Judah**. In this section (**9:8 to 10:4**) **the prophet** develops the theme: **Quick to plunder, swift to the spoil**. That is the name of **his son Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz**. In this second section (**10:5 to 34**) **he** develops the theme: **A remnant will return**. That is the name of **his son Shear-Jashub**. In the third section (**11:1 to 12:6**) **he** develops the theme: **The LORD is salvation**, which is the name of **Isaiah**.

Before we look at this, go back to **2:9**, which reads: **So man will be brought low and mankind humbled - do not forgive them**. Remember in the first five chapters, **Isaiah** began to develop points that he intended to expand on later. Therefore, this section, **9:8 to 10:4**, is an expansion of **2:9**.

In this section **Isaiah** describes **Isra'el** being **brought low and being humbled** by the use of a four-stanza poem. It details the dreadful consequences of spiritual adultery that the northern kingdom would succumb to. All four stanzas end with the phrase: **yet for all this, His anger is not turned away, his hand is still**

upraised. **To see the link click** the first stanza **Cq - The LORD Has Sent a Message Against Jacob (9:8-12)**; the second stanza is **Cr - The LORD Will Cut Off the Head and the Tail (9:13-17)**; the third stanza is **Cs - Manasseh Will Feed On Ephraim (9:18-21)**; and the final stanza is **Ct - Woe To Those Who Make Unjust Laws (10:4)**. Earlier we were told that **a great light**, of **9:2**, would not come until darkness had reached its greatest point. This section, then, deals with the increase of that darkness.

When we think of **Ha’Shem’s** anger we must avoid two pitfalls. First, we must avoid thinking, “Oh, that’s just an old fashioned misunderstanding of things.” We know better; Jesus is really a **God** of love.” This is dangerous because both the TaNaKh and the B’rit Chadashah are equally inspired and both display **ADONAI’s** love and anger. **Yeshua Messiah Himself** became terribly angry on several occasions (**Luke 11:37-54, Luke 12:4-5; John 2:13-22**). In fact, love and anger are two sides of the same coin.

Secondly, we must avoid thinking that whenever we suffer, **YHVH** must be angry with us. If a drunk driver swerves onto the sidewalk and kills my child, that is not a sign **God** is angry with me. Finally, we should also avoid the idea that the anger of **the LORD** in the Bible is simply a metaphor for the bad things that happen to us in our lives. Take gravity, for example. Falling is just the way things are. The ground is not angry with you if you step out of a twenty-third story window and fall to the ground. There is a difference between **God’s** love and **His** anger. **He is** love, and **He gets** angry. That is, love is a part of **His** being. Thus, **He** is not some tyrant with a hair-trigger temper. The one consistent description of **ADONAI** in the TaNaKh is that **He is compassionate, gracious and slow to anger (Exodus 34:6; Numbers 14:18; Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 86:15, etc)**. At the same time, **He** cares as much about what we do with our lives as any loving father.

So, does **God** get angry? Yes **He** does, but it is not the selfish anger of a sinful human. Nor is it the temper tantrum of an overbearing heavenly monarch who will not permit **His** lowly subjects to do what they want. It is the heartbroken response of an **Artist** who watches **His** creations doing things that are not only a violation of **His** original dream, but are a violation of their very natures.³⁵