

Spaniards who came in search of gold and North America by Pilgrims who came in search of God."

As a result of the loyalty to God of the many persecuted groups which came to North America seeking freedom to worship the Lord in accordance with His Word, our nation has been remarkably blessed. Millions of people who do not share in the faith of our fathers are profiting by the blessings God has given. To them the message of this passage would be very appropriate. They have no true reason to rejoice in the great things which God has done for our country, because their own enjoyment of them is only temporary. It is a by product of God's blessing upon His own. If America continues its present course of wandering away from God, it will inevitably find itself losing its prosperity and suffering the natural result of its sin. Oh, that our nation would be given afresh the message of verse 32! It is only as we trust in the foundation which God has laid in Zion through the death of Jesus Christ at Calvary that we have any reason to expect continuance of His blessing.

Thus we see that Isaiah 14:29-32 is not really a distinct burden, but an integral part of the burden of Babylon. These verses deal particularly with the attitude of outsiders to the marvelous works of God. They point out the folly of thinking that one can enjoy the by-products of righteousness without partaking in that righteousness himself. Though the two chapters deal primarily with God's attitude toward the mighty forces of wickedness, lesser powers of evil need not think that God will overlook them. There are only two sides in the world conflict. Do you stand with Babylon, or do you stand with God?

Isaiah 15-16: The Burden of Moab

These two chapters are entitled, "The Burden of Moab." At sight of this title many readers pass rapidly on to some thing else. Moab means little to them.

Yet Moab was a nation with a great deal of individuality. Its history is at many points very interesting and important. It is true that it is not a great empire like Babylon or Assyria. The chapters do not, like chapters 13 and 14, present a picture of the final destruction of the great forces