

Study 52: Isaiah, Part 8 Isaiah 8:15-22

In Isa 8:6, a question about “Shiloah” arose:

“Because this people has rejected
the gently flowing waters of Shiloah
and rejoices over Rezin
and the son of Remaliah,
7 therefore the Lord is about to bring against them
the mighty floodwaters of the Euphrates—
the king of Assyria with all his pomp.
It will overflow all its channels,
run over all its banks

It was speculated that perhaps this was a reference to Christ, ala Gen 49:10. However, in that verse, it’s spelled “Shiloh” (no “a”). Shiloh was the town in Israel where the tabernacle was placed on a permanent basis. Shiloah, on the other hand, was a stream, and it was being compared to the rushing waters of the Euphrates river. Shiloah represented the kingly line of David, while the Euphrates represented the king of Assyria.

Isaiah 8

13 **The Lord Almighty**¹ is the one you are to regard as holy,

he is the one you are to fear,

he is the one you are to dread.

14 He will be a holy place;

for both Israel and Judah he will be

a stone that causes people to stumble

and a rock that makes them fall.

And for the people of Jerusalem he will be

a trap and a snare.

This verse is referred to in the New Testament in **1 Peter 2**:

4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house [or *into a temple of the Spirit*] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,

a chosen and precious cornerstone,

and the one who trusts in him

will never be put to shame.” [Isa 28:16]

7 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone,” [Ps 118:22]

8 and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble

and a rock that makes them fall.” [Isa 8:14]

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

→ Back to **Isaiah 8**:

15 Many of them will stumble;

¹ Yahweh Sabaoth - Lord of hosts (armies)

they will fall and be broken,
they will be snared and captured.”

16 Bind up this testimony of warning
and seal up God’s instruction among my disciples.

17 I will wait for the Lord,
who is hiding his face from the descendants of Jacob.
I will put my trust in him.

18 Here am I, and the children the Lord has given me. We are signs and symbols in Israel from the Lord Almighty, who dwells on Mount Zion.

19 When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? 20 Consult God’s instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. 21 Distressed and hungry, they will roam through the land; when they are famished, they will become enraged and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God. 22 Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness.