

## *Study: Isaiah 16*

*Chapter Lead: Brother Corey*

*Book: Isaiah*

*Chapter: 16*

*Bible: New King James Version*

# Moab Destroyed

## Main Point

Isaiah 16 teaches that pride leads to judgment, God cares about justice and mercy, and true hope is found under the righteous rule of the Lord.

## Introduction

## Moab's Background

---

## Section 1: Isaiah 16:1-2

### A Call To Humble Submission

“<sup>1</sup>Send the lamb to the ruler of the land,  
From Sela to the wilderness,  
To the mount of the daughter of Zion.”

“<sup>2</sup>For it shall be as a wandering bird thrown out of the nest;  
So shall be the daughters of Moab at the fords of the Arnon.”

### Moab sends tribute to the ruler of the land (v. 1)

- The chapter opens with Moab sending lambs.
- This appears to be an appeal for favor, submission, or protection.
- Moab is in distress and seeking help from outside itself.

### Moab is pictured as helpless and displaced (v. 2)

- The daughters of Moab are compared to birds cast out of the nest.
- The picture is one of confusion, weakness, and instability.
- Moab is no longer secure; it is now vulnerable.

## Supporting Verses

## *Study: Isaiah 16*

- 2 Kings 3:4-5
- Proverbs 27:8
- Psalm 46:1
- **Matthew 11:28**

Application

Prayer

---

## Section 2: Isaiah 16:3-5

### A Call to Justice, Mercy, and Refuge

“<sup>3</sup>Take counsel, execute judgment;  
Make your shadow like the night in the middle of the day;  
Hide the outcasts,  
Do not betray him who escapes.”

“<sup>4</sup>Let My outcasts dwell with you, O Moab;  
Be a shelter to them from the face of the spoiler.  
For the extortioner is at an end,  
Devastation ceases,  
The oppressors are consumed out of the land.”

“<sup>5</sup>In mercy the throne will be established;  
And One will sit on it in truth, in the tabernacle of David,  
Judging and seeking justice and hastening righteousness.”

Moab asked for shelter and protection (vv. 3–4a)

- The request is urgent and practical.
- Moab asked for wise counsel.
- Moab asked for shade and covering.
- Moab asked that the outcasts be hidden and fugitives not be betrayed.
- The emphasis is on mercy shown to those in danger.

Supporting Verses

## *Study: Isaiah 16*

- Psalm 82:3-4
- Proverbs 31:8-9
- Deuteronomy 10:18–19
- **Matthew 25:35**

### The oppressor will not last forever (v. 4b)

- Extortion will end.
- Destruction will cease.
- The oppressors and trampers will be cut off.
- Evil may seem strong, but it is never permanent under God's rule.

### A throne will be established in mercy (v. 5)

- This is the high point of the chapter.
- In contrast to Moab's instability, God speaks of stability.
- In contrast to pride, God speaks of faithfulness.
- In contrast to oppression, God speaks of justice.

### The ruler on this throne is marked by godly character (v. 5)

- Mercy
- Truth or faithfulness
- Judgment
- Justice
- Righteousness

### The connection to the house of David (v. 5)

- The throne is connected to David's line.
- This points to God's covenant purposes.
- Many see here a prophetic glimpse of the Messiah and His righteous reign.

### Supporting Verses

- 2 Samuel 7:12-16
- Isaiah 9:6-7
- Isaiah 11:1-5
- Jeremiah 23:5-6
- Luke 1:32-33

### Application

### Prayer

## Section 3: Isaiah 16:6

### The Root Issue: Pride

“We have heard of the pride of Moab—  
He is very proud—  
Of his haughtiness and his pride and his wrath;  
But his lies shall not be so.”

The root issue is not merely political trouble

- Moab’s real issue is spiritual and moral.
- The chapter pauses to explain why judgment is coming.

Moab is known for its pride

- Pride
- Arrogance
- Wrath
- Lies or empty boasting

Moab’s boasting is shown to be empty

- What Moab says about itself is greater than what is true.
- Its confidence is misplaced.
- Its spirit is lifted up against God.

Teaching Emphasis

- Pride is often the hidden sin behind visible collapse.
- Before the nation falls outwardly, it has already fallen inwardly.

Supporting Verses

- Proverbs 11:2
- Proverbs 16:18
- James 4:6
- 1 Peter 5:5

Application

Prayer

## Section 4: Isaiah 16:7-11

### Judgment on Prosperity, Pleasure, and Pride

“<sup>7</sup>Therefore Moab shall wail for Moab;  
Everyone shall wail.  
For the foundations of Kir Hareseth you shall mourn;  
Surely they are stricken.”

“<sup>8</sup>For the fields of Heshbon languish,  
And the vine of Sibmah;  
The Lords of the nations have broken down its choice plants,  
Which have reached to Jazer  
And wandered through the wilderness.  
Her branches are stretched out,  
They are gone over the sea.”

“<sup>9</sup>Therefore I will bewail the vine of Sibmah,  
With the weeping of Jazer; I will drench you with my tears,  
O Heshbon and Elealeh;  
For battle cries have fallen  
Over your summer fruits and your harvest.”

“<sup>10</sup>Gladness is taken away,  
And joy from the plentiful field; In the vineyards there will be no singing,  
Nor will there be shouting;  
No treaders will tread out wine in the presses;  
I have made their shouting cease.”

“<sup>11</sup>Therefore my heart shall resound like a harp for Moab,  
And my inner being for Kir Heres.”

## *Study: Isaiah 16*

### Moab will wail for Moab (v. 7)

- The nation becomes its own mourner.
- There is grief throughout the land.
- The sorrow is widespread, not isolated.

### The foundations of Moab will be struck (v. 7)

- The things that once gave Moab strength are failing.
- Its supports are crumbling.
- Its glory cannot hold under divine judgment.

### The fields and vineyards are devastated (v. 8)

- Heshbon's fields languish.
- Sibmah's vine is struck.
- The places known for fruitfulness are now marked by ruin.
- Economic strength and natural abundance are both touched by judgment.

### Teaching Emphasis

- God's judgment reaches into the things people trust most.
- What once looked secure can quickly collapse when God's hand is against it.

### The prophet speaks in terms of weeping and lament (v. 9)

- There is weeping over Jazer and the vine of Sibmah.
- The language is not cold or detached.
- The ruin of the land is spoken of with sorrow.

### The fruitful places are stripped of their joy (v. 10)

- Gladness is taken away.
- Joy is removed from the plentiful field.
- Singing in the vineyards ceases.
- Harvest celebration is silenced.

### The normal signs of life and blessing disappear

- No cheerful treading of grapes
- No joyful shouting
- No harvest songs
- The sounds of life are replaced by silence and sorrow

### Teaching Emphasis

- Judgment is not only the fall of power; it is the removal of joy.

## *Study: Isaiah 16*

- Sin eventually empties what it once promised to fill.

### The heart mourns for Moab (v. 11)

- The inward parts sound like a harp for Moab.
- The picture is one of deep, trembling sorrow.

### Judgment is described with compassion (v. 11)

- The message is firm, but not heartless.
- There is grief even while the judgment is deserved.

### Teaching Emphasis

- God's servants should never speak of judgment with delight.
- Truth must be spoken clearly, but also with a broken spirit.

### Supporting Verses

- Jeremiah 48:32-33
- Joel 1:10-12
- Hosea 2:8-9
- Deuteronomy 8:17-18
- Jeremiah 48:36
- Ezekiel 33:11
- Lamentations 3:33

### Application

### Prayer

---

## Section 5: Isaiah 16:12

### False Worship Cannot Save

“<sup>12</sup>And it shall come to pass, When it is seen that Moab is weary on the high place, That he will come to his sanctuary to pray; But he will not prevail.”

### Moab turns to its high place

- Moab goes to worship.
- It seeks help in the place it has trusted.

### Moab prays, but does not prevail

- Its religious effort cannot save it.

## *Study: Isaiah 16*

- Its false worship has no power to deliver.

### Outward religion is exposed as empty

- Ceremony cannot replace repentance.
- Ritual cannot overcome rebellion.
- False gods cannot rescue in the day of trouble.

### Teaching Emphasis

- Sincerity is not enough if the object of worship is false.
- When judgment comes, only the true God can save.

### Supporting Verses

- Isaiah 44:9-20
- Jeremiah 2:27-28
- 1 Kings 18:26-29
- John 14:6

### Application

### Prayer

---

## Section 6: Isaiah 16:13-14

### God's Word is Certain

“<sup>10</sup>This is the word which the Lord has spoken concerning Moab since that time.

“<sup>11</sup>But now the Lord has spoken, saying, “Within three years, as the years of a hired man, the glory of Moab will be despised with all that great multitude, and the remnant will be very small and feeble.”

#### A. This is the word the Lord has spoken (v. 13)

- The prophecy is authoritative.
- This is not speculation or opinion.
- The Lord has declared it.

#### B. The timing is fixed (v. 14)

- Within three years
- The time frame shows that the judgment is near.
- God's word is not vague; it is precise.

## *Study: Isaiah 16*

### C. Moab's glory will be brought low (v. 14)

- Its multitude will be reduced.
- Its noise and splendor will fade.
- Only a very small remnant will remain.

### Teaching Emphasis

- When God speaks, His word will stand.
- His judgments are not delayed by weakness or prevented by human power.

### Supporting Verses

- Psalm 115:4-8
- Isaiah 44:9-20
- Jeremiah 2:27-28
- 1 Kings 18:26-29
- John 14:6

### Closing

### Closing Prayer