

Is. 14:1 For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob.

Is. 14:2 And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the LORD for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors.

Again the promise is made that God will eventually restore Israel to a position of glory on planet earth. History proves that as a people, they have been subjected to some of the worst treatment by the nations of the earth—often in the name of God. These verses indicate that they will have the status of most honored nation. Those whom they had previously been made to serve will become their servants.

Is. 14:3 And it shall come to pass in the day that the LORD shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve,

Is. 14:4 That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!

Is. 14:5 The LORD hath broken the staff of the wicked, *and* the sceptre of the rulers.

There will come a day when the nation of Israel will no longer be in sorrow for the deaths of the innocent just because they are Jewish. They will no longer experience fear or wonder if it's safe to ride a bus, or go to worship, etc. They will no longer be used to serve other nations as slaves. Ready on the lips of the Jewish people will be expressions of joy in knowing that Babylon and all the evil it represents will never again be a threat to them. They will recognize that it is "the LORD" who has destroyed that wicked empire and its rulers.

Again, the wording and message make it clear that this is referencing a time yet future. At no time in history has Israel been in the position described above.

Is. 14:6 He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, *and* none hindereth.

I was thankful for the use of commentaries with this verse. According to Jamieson, Fausset and Brown, "is persecuted" in the Hebrew "is rather, *active*, 'which persecuted them, without any to hinder him' [*Vulgate*, JEROME, and HORSLEY]." This makes sense with the flow of the rest of the verse, and I believe it is a direct reference to Satan in the embodiment of Antichrist. Satan has been the power behind the evil empires of this world and has basically had a free hand in the persecution of the people of the world as the "prince of this world."

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience....

Satan is the one with the “continual stroke.” Many rulers have represented him throughout history and have died and been replaced by others.

Is. 14:7 The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing.

When the kingdom of Satan/ Antichrist is finally destroyed and Jesus is on the throne, this will be the reaction on earth.

Is. 14:8 Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us.

When the Antichrist, the ruler of the coming Babylon, is destroyed and Satan is bound, the earth, as represented by its trees, will rejoice; it will finally be free of the reign of evil.

Is. 14:9 Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.

Is. 14:10 All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us?

Is. 14:11 Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.

This is a picture of the former mighty rulers of kingdoms on earth who are in hell and greeting the bound Satan with derision. It has to be Satan in the context of the next verses and because the antichrist is thrown into the lake of fire. Satan is bound for 1000 years in the bottomless pit, which must have some proximity to hell/sheol/hades, the place of departed spirits. Both hell/sheol/hades and the bottomless pit are designated as below us, which would indicate in the bowels of the earth.

Is. 14:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

It's interesting that *Lucifer* in the Hebrew means “morning star,” which is a title of Jesus in Revelation. As I continued to study and meditate, as shown below, I think it is used in direct contrast to the true “bright and morning star” whom he so desires to usurp.

Revelation 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

It's interesting that Job also refers to the angels that witnessed creation as “morning stars” and “sons” of God.

Job 38:6–7 “Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”

Jesus, however, is unique among the morning stars; He is the “bright and morning star.” He is not just “a” son of God; He is the “only begotten” Son of God. He is God in flesh.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

John 1:1&14 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.””

This is the only place where the name of Lucifer is used. Strong’s indicates that the word for *Lucifer* is a combination of two words.

1966. IElyEh heylel, *hay-lale*’; **from 1984** (in the sense of brightness); the morning-star:—lucifer.

1984. IAIDh halal, *haw-lal*’; a primitive root; to be clear (orig. of sound, but usually of color); to shine; hence, to make a show, to boast; and thus to be (clamorously) foolish; to rave....

3213. IAIfy yalal, *yaw-lal*’; a primitive root; to howl (with a wailing tone) or yell (with a boisterous one)

It would seem that this is a good point to keep in mind Isaiah’s poetic style of writing. The first phrase of verse 12 references Satan’s fall from heaven, from his exalted created position. In reference to this fallen position, Isaiah is inspired to use a term that reflects who Satan is in light of his fall. He uses a word in which the root includes the idea of one who shines through boasting and foolish clamoring, trying to impress others with his position through ranting and raving.

The more I think on this verse, it would seem that the last half of verse 12 is referencing the time when Satan and his angels will be thrown out of heaven by Michael and his angels.

Revelation 12:7-9 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Putting all these thoughts together in my head, it seems like the term “Lucifer” is being used in a derogatory manner. One who once occupied a very honored position has been thrown out of heaven. His only claim to fame is that he was able to “weaken the nations.”

Looking at this verse again, it would seem that it would be more a direct reference to Satan's "fall" from heaven when he first rebelled against God and persuaded 1/3 of the angels to go with him. Jesus actually referenced the fact that He had seen Satan fall from heaven.

Luke 10:18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

That being said, this verse in Isaiah probably is referencing both—the first fall and Satan's coming permanent fall when he is banned from heaven forever.

Is. 14:13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

Is. 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Why did Satan fall? Because of pride. This truth is confirmed by Paul in his letter to Timothy.

1Timothy 3:6lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

Note that Satan didn't publicly proclaim his intentions; he voice them "in his heart." He is so skillful even now as he uses people toward the attainment of his goals while presenting himself as humble and/or in the guise of wanting to serve others. Though men are easily fooled, God knows what is in one's heart—be it angel or man.

The word *said* includes to boast, challenge, and desire. Following are five "I wills" that indicate Satan's desire to usurp the position of God. As I continue to look at the "I will" statements, they seem to be referencing the deceitful work of Satan in the persons of those through whom he weakened the nations—from Nimrod to Antichrist—through whom he hoped to achieve his aspirations.

"I will ascend into heaven" – Satan already had access to heaven. I think this statement directly relates to the leadership of Nimrod referenced in Genesis.

Genesis 10:9-10 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

*Genesis 11:2-4 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there...._And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, **whose top may reach unto heaven**; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.*

"I will exalt my throne above the stars of God" – As mentioned before, the angels of God are referenced as stars.

Job 38:7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

Amazingly, Satan was created as one of these stars, but that wasn't enough; he wanted his throne, his seat of power and authority to be higher than any of the others. This seems to indicate that there must have been at least one other angel who had a higher position than he—possibly Michael, since he is the one who eventually casts him out of the heavens (see Revelation 12:7-9 above) and is only one of two who has charge of the protection of God's people, the Jews.

Daniel 10:21 But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

"I will sit....of the north" – Satan not only wants to usurp God's position on the throne of heaven, but on His throne on earth as well—on Mt. Zion in Jerusalem.

1Kings 11:36 And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there.

Zechariah 3:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

*Psalms 48:2 Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, **on the sides of the north**, the city of the great King.*

His final attempt to accomplish this purpose will be indwelling the Antichrist during the 70th week—a truth confirmed by Paul in his letter to the Thessalonians.

2Thessalonians 2:3-4 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

"I will ascend....clouds"

"I will be like the most High" – These phrases seem to describe his ultimate goal—to dwell in the highest heavens with the authority and power of God.

Ezekiel has a companion passage to this section in connection with the King of Tyre. It is obvious from the content of that section of verses that reference is being made to the demonic force behind the earthly King of Tyre—Satan.

*Ezekiel 28:12-17 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, **full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty**. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; **every precious stone was thy covering**, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. **Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth**; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy*

*mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. **Thou wast perfect in thy ways** from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. **Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty**, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.*

This passage from Ezekiel tells us why Satan was so full of pride. He was full of wisdom, perfect in beauty, perfect in his ways, and enjoyed a privileged status among the angels.

Is. 14:15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Though he has been thwarted many times in his efforts to achieve his goal, Satan keeps on trying. He never gives up. His defeat was certain from the beginning as declared in Genesis and affirmed in Revelation.

*Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; **it shall bruise thy head**, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*

Revelation 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

A head wound is a fatal wound; the Hebrew indicates to be “overwhelmed, break, bruise, cover.” “Her seed” is a reference to Jesus, the virgin born Son of God. Satan succeeded in getting Jesus killed on the cross, but in doing so he sealed His defeat.

Hebrews 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil....

Is. 14:16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

Is. 14:17 That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?

Although probably applicable to several of Satan’s vessels of choice throughout history, I believe this is still referencing the final Antichrist in context. When he is finally defeated and those he deceived are able to look at him carefully and see him for who he really is, a puppet in the hands of Satan, yet just a man, they are going to wonder at how he was able to cause such fear and awe throughout the kingdoms on earth.

“wilderness” – comes from a root word that can mean “subdue, destroy.”

I think this is referencing that fact that he was able to subdue the world and destroy cities, and had the mindset of once a prisoner always a prisoner subject to his will.

Is. 14:18 All the kings of the nations, *even* all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house.

Is. 14:19 But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, *and as* the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.

Is. 14:20 Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, *and* slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned.

Throughout history most kings and rulers have been accorded glorious funerals and elaborate burials. Antichrist is not going to have that privilege. He won't even be given a grave; he will be thrown directly into the lake of fire (as seen in Revelation 20:10 above)—disposed of like a rotten tree limb or the blood soaked clothing of one who was slain violently in battle. His body will get no special treatment. Why is he to be treated so? Because he destroyed his own land and his own people. (Saddam Hussein and Nero among others quickly come to mind with this description.) Only the most despicable of rulers would destroy his own people and his own land. Evildoers cannot expect to have their memory honored.

Is. 14:21 Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers; that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities.

The identities of Antichrist and Lucifer/Satan have been woven together in these past few verses. It would make sense to me that "his children" is referencing the progeny of those who choose to be in league with Satan by rejecting God. At the time of the final Antichrist, they will actually meet their death at Armageddon and will not be allowed to rise to influence in the coming kingdom or produce more offspring to pollute the face of the earth with their own godless progeny.

I think this is a consistent principle in scripture. When the Israelites were given instructions regarding taking possession of the land of Canaan, they were to destroy all their enemies. God knew that these cultures were full of idolatry and had no desire to respond to him. Allowing them to survive would only result in their serving to turn His people away from Him and His truth.

This would seem to be a biblical type supporting the truth that only believers will be allowed to enter Christ's millennial kingdom.

Is. 14:22 For I will rise up against them, saith the LORD of hosts, and cut off from Babylon the name, and remnant, and son, and nephew, saith the LORD.

Is. 14:23 I will also make it a possession for the bittern, and pools of water: and I will sweep it with the besom of destruction, saith the LORD of hosts.

Babylon is the final empire controlled by Antichrist that will be destroyed in the last days. The descendants of Babylon were not murdered when the MedoPersians conquered Babylon around 537 BC. It was their policy to integrate the conquered peoples into their kingdom in a more peaceful manner. The destruction of Babylon being referenced here is yet future.

Is. 14:24 The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand:

This is a strong statement of God's sovereignty. God doesn't even have to verbalize his plan for it to come to pass; He just has to think it. Whatever He purposes will come to pass—there are no *ifs, ands, or buts*.

Is. 14:25 That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders.

Our subject has been the king of Babylon / Antichrist / Satan. The Assyrian appears to be another reference to the same entity. It would also appear to be another clue as to his origin.

"My mountains" would be identifying the hills and land in Jerusalem / Israel. Antichrist will be defeated at the final battle of Armageddon to be fought in Megiddo and the valley of Jehoshaphat.

Joel 3:2 I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Revelation 16:14&16 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

Is. 14:26 This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations.

This verse clarifies that this prophecy of Isaiah will impact the whole earth, including Babylon (cf notes on 13:11), and that it is part of God's plan. Verse 25 says "I will break the Assyrian in my land." This identifies "the hand that is stretched out." God is the one executing judgment.

Is. 14:27 For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul *it*? and his hand *is* stretched out, and who shall turn it back?

In Isaiah's poetic style, he is repeating the truth previously stated (cf 14:24). God has a plan and purpose and no one can disannul (defeat, frustrate, make of none effect) its completion. It is God's hand that is stretched out in judgment, and nothing will interfere with this judgment.

Daniel 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Is. 14:28 In the year that king Ahaz died was this burden.

This verse puts a timeframe regarding when Isaiah was given this burden—around 720 BC (I found different dates as I researched it). Most of the commentators reference this as the intro to the following. My first thought was that he was referencing the timeframe of the previous “burden” since it was not introduced by a “time-identifier” as are most of the burdens Isaiah records.

On the other hand, if this is not the introduction to the next few verses, they seem to be hanging in mid-air with no reference point. I think the broken rod is the king of Assyria, Tiglath-pileser.

Is. 14:29 Rejoice not thou, whole Palestina, because the rod of him that smote thee is broken: for out of the serpent’s root shall come forth a cockatrice, and his fruit *shall be* a fiery flying serpent.

We learned in Isaiah 7 that Ahaz faced danger from Syria and Ephraim and called for help from Assyria. Though the king was driven out of Judah and returned home only to be killed by his sons, this was not a reason for rejoicing.

The serpent is usually associated with Satan and that which is evil. Different Hebrew words are used for the two references to *serpents* in this verse; included in the Hebrew are references to magic spells, divining, enchantment, and poison. The word for *cockatrice* includes “viper, adder.”

It would seem that the point is being made that from the root of the dead king would eventually emerge a worse evil.

Is. 14:30 And the firstborn of the poor shall feed, and the needy shall lie down in safety: and I will kill thy root with famine, and he shall slay thy remnant.

Whenever the “broken rod” is out of the picture, the people will give a sigh of relief. The poor and needy will once again feel safe. This is a premature reaction. (Many of the words in the last phrase of this verse were added by the translators.) When using the actual Hebrew words, it seems to be a statement that God is going to destroy the inhabitants of *Palestina* with famine and “the root” that emerges in Assyria will kill the rest.

Some translations conclude that *Palestina* is a reference to the Philistines who lived in the land today occupied by the Palestinians.

David Guzik makes this interesting comment: “Some see in this a future judgment for “modern Philistines,” that is, Palestinians. The name “Palestine” is a Latin name from the name Philista, and this may be a prophetic warning to the

Palestinians: do not rejoice in the suffering or downfall of Israel, because worse judgment will befall you."

Is. 14:31 Howl, O gate; cry, O city; thou, whole Palestina, *art* dissolved: for there shall come from the north a smoke, and none *shall be* alone in his appointed times.

Howl (with a wailing tone) O gate (of the city), cry (from anguish or danger) O city—This seems to reference a city, probably the designated capital city as representative of *Palestina* (maybe Gaza). The country is going to be consumed by an "angry smoke" (a great army) from the north at the "appointed times" (at the time purposed by God).

This attack would be in addition to the plague of famine mentioned in the previous verse.

Is. 14:32 What shall *one* then answer the messengers of the nation? That the LORD hath founded Zion, and the poor of his people shall trust in it.

Evidently messengers will be sent from Palestina to Zion to seek an alliance in defense of this invading army from the north.
"poor" = depressed, in mind or circumstances

The answer coming back from "Zion" is that they will trust in the Lord—not in human alliances.

Needless to say, I am not content with my understanding of verses 28-32. Maybe further revelation will come eventually.