

Isaiah 11 (A Judges Creed)

I rather like the 11th Chapter of Isaiah a lot because verses 1 through 5 read like a preamble to the introduction of a great judge who's about to present a rousing speech on the importance of law & order or something.

And as you read through the text of the whole chapter below, note how verses 6 through 16 accentuate the results of the Lord's having put someone in the high-place of a judges seat who presides over the law and the land with righteousness.

Again, I think The Message version says it well:

Isaiah 11 (MSG)

A Green Shoot from Jesse's Stump

¹⁻⁵ A green Shoot will sprout from Jesse's stump,
from his roots a budding Branch.
The life-giving Spirit of GOD will hover over him,
the Spirit that brings wisdom and understanding,
The Spirit that gives direction and builds strength,
the Spirit that instills knowledge and Fear-of-GOD.
Fear-of-GOD
will be all his joy and delight.
He won't judge by appearances,
won't decide on the basis of hearsay.
He'll judge the needy by what is right,
render decisions on earth's poor with justice.
His words will bring everyone to awed attention.
A mere breath from his lips will topple the wicked.
Each morning he'll pull on sturdy work clothes and boots,
and build righteousness and faithfulness in the land.

A Living Knowledge of God

⁶⁻⁹ The wolf will romp with the lamb,
the leopard sleep with the kid.
Calf and lion will eat from the same trough,
and a little child will tend them.
Cow and bear will graze the same pasture,
their calves and cubs grow up together,
and the lion eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child will crawl over rattlesnake dens,
the toddler stick his hand down the hole of a serpent.
Neither animal nor human will hurt or kill
on my holy mountain.
The whole earth will be brimming with knowing God-Alive,
a living knowledge of God ocean-deep, ocean-wide.

¹⁰ On that day, Jesse's Root will be raised high, posted as a rallying banner for the peoples. The nations will all come to him. His headquarters will be glorious.

¹¹ Also on that day, the Master for the second time will reach out to bring back what's left of his scattered people. He'll bring them back from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Ethiopia, Elam, Sinar, Hamath, and the ocean islands.

¹²⁻¹⁶ And he'll raise that rallying banner high, visible to all nations,
gather in all the scattered exiles of Israel,
Pull in all the dispersed refugees of Judah
from the four winds and the seven seas.
The jealousy of Ephraim will dissolve,
the hostility of Judah will vanish—
Ephraim no longer the jealous rival of Judah,
Judah no longer the hostile rival of Ephraim!
Blood brothers united, they'll pounce on the Philistines in the west,
join forces to plunder the people in the east.
They'll attack Edom and Moab.
The Ammonites will fall into line.
GOD will once again dry up Egypt's Red Sea,
making for an easy crossing.
He'll send a blistering wind
down on the great River Euphrates,
Reduce it to seven mere trickles.
None even need get their feet wet!
In the end there'll be a highway all the way from Assyria,
easy traveling for what's left of God's people—
A highway just like the one Israel had
when he marched up out of Egypt.

And to think, all this happened approximately 700 years before the birth of Christ.

I hope you have an amazing day!!

- Jack