**Isaiah**

*Moab: Judgment Through Tears*

*Isaiah 15-16*

Background

* Moab is located east of the Dead Sea. The Moabites were descendants from Moab, the son of Lot and his oldest daughter (Gen 19:31-37)
* On the way to the promised land, the Moabites refused safe passage to Israel
* Moses was commanded by God not to vex them when Israel passed through on their way to Canaan (Deut 2:8-9, 18-19, 29). However, it was Balak, king of Moab, who hired Balaam to curse Israel (Num 22-24)
* Later, during the judgeship period, Moab's king Eglon attacked Israel, captured Jericho, and afflicted Israel for 18 years (Judg 3:12)
* Story of Ruth who was from Moab – extension of God’s compassion and grace to the Gentiles
* Moab was conquered at the time of King David and its citizens forced to work as servants for the royal building projects (2 Sam. 8:2)

Destruction Is

* Sudden and Unexpected (v 1, 16:14)
* Very Hard (v 2-4, 8, 16:10)
  + From the cry of Heshbon *even* unto Elealeh, *and even* unto Jahaz, have they uttered their voice, from Zoar *even* unto Horonaim, *as* an heifer of three years old: for the waters also of Nimrim shall be desolate. (Jer 48:34)
* Eliminates Our Securities (v 4-9)
  + Military (v 4)
  + Natural Resources (v 6, 16:7-8)
  + Our Abundance (v 7)
    - How does Pride prevent sinners from seeking refuge in Jesus Christ?
      * Pride puffs one up with a sense of false importance – based on worth and works
      * Pride creates a spirit of independence that refuses to submit to the Lordship of Christ
      * Pride prefers its own wisdom to the revelation of God
      * Pride seeks its own agenda rather than the interests of the kingdom of God
      * God resists the proud but gives grace only to the humble
* Not Without God’s Compassion (v 5, 16:9, 11)
* Not Without God’s Mercy
  + The Lamb (v 16:1)
    - 4 And Mesha king of Moab was a sheepmaster, and rendered unto the king of Israel an hundred thousand lambs, and an hundred thousand rams, with the wool. 5 But it came to pass, when Ahab was dead, that the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel. (2 Kings 3:4-5)
  + Counsel (v 16:3)
  + Execute Judgment (v 16:3)
  + Care for the Outcasts (v 16:3-4)
  + Promise of the Messiah (v 16:5)