Isaiah 9

JPS [Online]

Unto Us a Child Is Born

(Matthew 4:12–17; Mark 1:14–15; Luke 4:14–15)

- For is there no gloom to her that was stedfast? Now the former hath lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but the latter hath dealt a more grievous blow by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in the district of the nations.
- ²The people that walked in darkness Have seen a great light; They that dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them hath the light shined.
- ³Thou hast multiplied the nation, Thou hast increased their joy; They joy before Thee according to the joy in harvest, As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

- ⁴For the yoke of his burden, And the staff of his shoulder, The rod of his oppressor, Thou hast broken as in the day of Midian.
- ⁵For every boot stamped with fierceness, And every cloak rolled in blood, Shall even be for burning, for fuel of fire.
- ⁶For a child is born unto us, A son is given unto us; And the government is upon his shoulder; And his name is called Pele-joez-el-gibbor-Abi-ad-sar-shalom;
- That the government may be increased, And of peace there be no end, Upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, To establish it, and to uphold it Through justice and through righteousness From henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts doth perform this.

Judgment against Israel's Pride

- 8The Lord sent a word into Jacob, And it hath lighted upon Israel.
- ⁹And all the people shall know, Even Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria, That say in pride and in arrogancy of heart:
- **10**The bricks are fallen, but we will build with hewn stones; The sycamores are cut down, but cedars will we put in their place.'
- 11 Therefore the LORD doth set upon high the adversaries of Rezin against him, And spur his enemies;
- ¹²The Arameans on the east, and the Philistines on the west; And they devour Israel with open mouth. For all this His anger is not turned away, But His hand is stretched out still.

Judgment against Israel's Hypocrisy

- 13Yet the people turneth not unto Him that smiteth them, Neither do they seek the LORD of hosts.
- 14Therefore the LORD doth cut off from Israel head and tail, Palm-branch and rush, in one day.
- 15The elder and the man of rank, he is the head; And the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail.
- **16**For they that lead this people cause them to err; And they that are led of them are destroyed.
- 17Therefore the Lord shall have no joy in their young men, Neither shall He have compassion on their fatherless and widows; For every one is ungodly and an evil-doer, And every mouth speaketh wantonness. For all this His anger is not turned away, But His hand is stretched out still.

Judgment against Israel's Unrepentance

- ¹⁸For wickedness burneth as the fire; It devoureth the briers and thorns; Yea, it kindleth in the thickets of the forest, And they roll upward in thick clouds of smoke.
- ¹⁹Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts is the land burnt up; The people also are as the fuel of fire; No man spareth his brother.

- ²⁰And one snatcheth on the right hand, and is hungry; And he eateth on the left hand, and is not satisfied; They eat every man the flesh of his own arm:
- ²¹Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh; And they together are against Judah. For all this His anger is not turned away, But His hand is stretched out still.