

# THE STEM OF JESSE

By Keith Greer

"There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots." {Isaiah 11:1}

Assyria was going to take Israel into captivity, and Samaria was going to fall. This great nation was going to be brought to her knees. How did it happen? Why did it happen? Sadly, we know the answers to these questions. Unbelief and disobedience to God's commandments! Long ago they stopped depending on God, and leaned heavily upon themselves and others. Now, they must face the consequences of their choices.

God had brought them out of the land of Egypt. (Exodus 14:13-30.) God had given them the land he had promised to their fathers. "So the LORD gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they took possession of it and dwelt in it. The LORD gave them rest all around, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers. And not a man of all their enemies stood against them; the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand. Not a word failed of any good thing which the LORD had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass." (Joshua 21:43-45) What hope did they have now? Did God's children have "no light at the end of the tunnel?" Would God forget about them?

NO! God held out hope for the "**faithful remnant**." What would make this hope a reality? The answer can be found in the first five verses of Isaiah the eleventh chapter. Let us identify this "**Stem of Jesse**."

First, who is Jesse? "And Jesse begot David the king ..." (Matthew 1:6) Also read 1 Samuel 20:31. Jesse is the father of King David. Whoever would come, would be from the stock of "**David**." Read Matthew 1:1. This is important because it gives the genealogy of Jesus.

Notice, "The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon Him." {Isaiah 11:2} Now, read Matthew 3:16. "... and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him." Read John's comments in John 1:32,33. Getting warm!

Look at the six characteristics this One would have. **WISDOM** and **UNDERSTANDING**: Insight of a problem, then formulating a way around the obstacle. (1 Corinthians 1:24; 1 John 5:20) **COUNSEL** and **MIGHT**: To determine a plan, then the power to carry forth the plan. (Hebrews 6:17; Matthew 28:18.) **KNOWLEDGE** and **THE FEAR OF GOD**: Complete comprehension of both God's part and man's part; Lovingly and willingly, doing the Father's will. (1 Timothy 2:5; Matthew 26:39; Who had and has all these six traits?

According to Isaiah 11:3,4, "His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His

mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked." His judgment will be fair, without partiality. (2 Corinthians 5:10; Acts 10:34, 35) Not on sight, but have all the "information" at His disposal to make a correct evaluation! Verse four also speaks of "wrath." "In flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power." {2 Thessalonians 1:8,9}

"Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, and faithfulness the belt of His waist."  
{Isaiah 11:5} Righteousness and Faithfulness to "support Him through every battle fought!" Put all the pieces together carefully and understand whoever this person is he must fulfill all that the prophet Isaiah spoke concerning Him. **Who is He?** It can only be the Son of God – Jesus Christ our Savior! \*\*\*