A	В	С
Babylon	The Desert by the Sea	The City of Emptiness
13:1 - 14:27	(Babylon) 21:1-10	24:1-20
Political Overthrow	Religious Overthrow	Broken laws, broken gate
Philistia	Silence (Edom)	Zion's King
14:28-32	21:11-12	24:21-23
A Davidic king will reign	Indefinite continuation	"After many days"
Moab	Evening (Arabia)	The Great Banquet
15:1 - 16:14	21:13-17	25:1-12
Pride refuses shelter	No refuge in alliance	All nations but Moab
Damascus/Ephriam	The Valley of Vision	The City of God
17:1 - 18:7	(Jerusalem) 22:1-25	26:1-20
Strong cities forsaken	The city torn down	The strong city
Egypt	Tyre	The Final Gathering
19:1 - 20:6	23:1-18	27:1-13
Joining with God's people	Holiness to the Lord	The final harvest

• A

- Babylon, the superpower seeking world domination
- Philistia, seeking to destroy God's people
- Moab, who was offered shelter with God's people but in pride refused it
- Damascus/Ephriam (Syria and Northern Israel) sought protection in their alliance, but that is not the way of security for the people of God
- Egypt, heading for disaster, but will be joined with Israel and Assyria as one people under one God

• B

- · Bablyon as an example superpower, seeking world dominion, but will share Babylon's fate
- Silence The need for patience it may seem the Lord is doing nothing, but you must be patient
- The gentile world still trying to protect itself with human resourcefulness will fail
- Jerusalem, trying to be self-sufficient, is sinfully refusing to follow the Lord
- The secular world, typified by Tyre, will be holiness to the Lord in the end

. C

- · Attempts to create global unity will collapse
- After many days there will be the glory of the Lord's reign in Zion

- The gentile world will be gathered to the great feast
- The people of God will enjoy true security in the strong city of salvation
- The trumpet of jubilee will summon the final gathering to the final harvest.
- Looking at the location of the people of God in these groupings, notice that they are surrounded on the North, South, East and West by Gentile peoples
- · Reading across the rows we see:
 - Babylon illustrates human attempts to unite the world by power
 - It will fall, and later attempts to unite the world by a superpower will likewise fail
 - Efforts to create a global "village" lead only to a city of chaos (ESV a wasted city; lit: a city of confusion), which falls
 - · Philistia illustrates the antagonism of the world to David's kingdom
 - But Zion's future is secure, even when nothing seems to be happening
 - In the long run ("after many days") the Lord will reign in glory in Zion
 - The need for security can only be met by David's king
 - But Moab's pride will not allow it to look there
 - Mutual help, or collective security is not the solution
 - Ultimately the world will enjoy the Lord's feast in Zion
 - The Lord's people attempt alliances (Israel with Syria) and self-sufficiency (Jerusalem), but they fail
 - · Only in the strong city of salvation is true peace and security
 - The ideal of unity and peace will be brought into being by the Lord himself.