



ISAIAH

Bible Prophets Series





Introduction...

- The Book of Isaiah is a MAJOR volume in the whole Bible for a number of reasons.
- Isaiah is considered a Prophet of Prophets. He was like Paul amongst the Apostles where major revelations were revealed to him beyond his timeline and dispensation.
- Isaiah also has a very long prophetic ministry in terms of years. He served during the reign of several Kings of Judah and served for 50 years and lived for about 75+years.
- The Book of Isaiah is a gamechanger in our study of the Prophets and we will discover why as we continue.

Introduction...

- The Book of Isaiah is a collection of eight (8) scrolls that have been put together covering Isaiah's revelations and prophecies.
- Isaiah speaks into the past (eg Lucifer's fall) into the near present (eg Babylon's conquest of Judah) and well into the future (Messiah's 1st and 2nd Coming).
- In fact, his prophecies are so accurate, that cognitive scholars believe, the scrolls were written years after Isaiah's death, as the events happened.



Introduction...

- Isaiah is called one of the 'major' prophets due to the volume size of his book. Likewise, Jeremiah and Ezekiel.
- The Jewish scholars called him one of the 'later' prophets due to the time frame in which he lived.
- So the former prophets include Joshua, Judges, Samuel and Kings.
- The later prophets are Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel followed by the 'twelve' (Hosea – Malachi).





Introduction...

- New Testament Quotations of Isaiah is the highest of all the prophets:

- Matt. 1:22 - Isa. 7:14

²² So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³ “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”

- Matt. 3:3 - Isa. 40:3

³ For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.’ ”

Introduction...

- Matt. 4:14 - Isa. 9:1-2
¹³ And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:
- ¹⁵ “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles:
¹⁶ The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death
Light has dawned.”
- Matt. 8:17 Isa. 53:4
¹⁶ When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, ¹⁷ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: “He Himself took our infirmities And bore *our* sicknesses.”





Introduction...

- Matt. 12:17 Isa. 42:1-4¹
⁵ But when Jesus knew *it*, He withdrew from there. And great ⁶multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all. ¹⁶Yet He warned them not to make Him known, ¹⁷ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:
 - ¹⁸“Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen,
My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased!
I will put My Spirit upon Him,
And He will declare justice to the Gentiles.
¹⁹ He will not quarrel nor cry out,
Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets.
²⁰ A bruised reed He will not break,
And smoking flax He will not quench,
Till He sends forth justice to victory;
²¹ And in His name Gentiles will trust.”
- Matt 13:14 Isa. 6:9-10
¹⁴ And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says:
 - ‘Hearing you will hear and shall not understand,
And seeing you will see and not perceive;
¹⁵ For the hearts of this people have grown dull.
Their ears are hard of hearing,
And their eyes they have closed,
Lest they should see with *their* eyes and hear with *their* ears,
Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn,
So that I ¹⁶should heal them.’



Introduction...

- Since the NT quotes from Isaiah chapters
- 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 28, 29, 40, 42, 48, 53, 62, and 65
- and ascribes all of these to Isaiah,
- we can be certain that Isaiah wrote the book!
- Of course, even easier would be to just look in the book of Isaiah itself, where his name is used 16 times.

Introduction...

- It is often noted that there is a major division in the book at chapters 39/40,
- and since the whole book has 66 chapters, 39 before the division and 27 after,
- the book mirrors the structure of the whole Bible which has 66 books, 39 in OT, 27 in NT.
- The first section seems to focus on judgment and the second on redemption, deliverance, and blessing.



Overview...

- **BOOK OF JUDGMENT Chapters 1–39**
 - A. Prophecies concerning Judah and Jerusalem. Chapters 1–12
 - B. Oracles of judgment against the nations. Chapters 13–23
 - C. Prophecies of world-wide judgment and deliverance. Chapters 24–27
 - D. Oracles of woe against Samaria, Jerusalem, and Assyria. Chapters 28–33
 - E. Prophecies of world-wide judgment and deliverance. Chapters 34–35
 - F. Historical interlude and transition Chapters 36–39
- **BOOK OF COMFORT Chapters 40–66**
 - A. Prophecies of redemption and restoration. Chapters 40–48
 - B. Prophecies involving God's Servant the Messiah. Chapters 49–55
 - C. Prophecies of condemnation and consummation. Chapters 56–66



Prophetic Eyesight...

- The gift of a prophet was the uncanny ability to see and reveal past, present and future events with accuracy....
- Isaiah lived during many global kingdom changes beyond the shores of Judah and Israel.
- Like Daniel, he served several Kings in succession – Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah. Jewish history states that he was killed by Hezekiah’s wicked son Manasseh
- His scrolls collection are a written compilation of his spiritual experiences and revelations. No other prophet has the level of Messianic revelation as Isaiah.

Prophetic Commissioning...



- In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His *robe* filled the temple. ² Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one cried to another and said:
- “Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts; The whole earth *is* full of His glory!”
- ⁴ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ So I said:
- “Woe *is* me, for I am undone! Because I *am* a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts.”
- ⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal *which* he had taken with the tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth *with it*, and said:
- “Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin ^{is} purged.”
- ⁸ Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying:
- “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?”
- Then I said, “Here *am* I! Send me.”
Isaiah 6:1-8

Prophetic Writings....

- As you read Isaiah, the Prophet takes you into the present, near future and distant future without indicating dates or timelines.
- Within the prophecies concerning the judgement of Judah he switches into the future.
- This is the way the Holy Spirit hides spiritual information within the prophetic writings of the prophets.
- That is why you have to read and reread and search for understanding...



Prophetic Writings....

- In the middle of speaking against the sins and wickedness of Judah in chapters 1 and 2, we suddenly have these verses appear speaking about the Millennium!:
- *The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.*
- *² Now it shall come to pass in the latter days
That the mountain of the LORD's house
Shall be established on the top of the mountains,
And shall be exalted above the hills;
And all nations shall flow to it.
³ Many people shall come and say,
"Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
To the house of the God of Jacob;
He will teach us His ways,
And we shall walk in His paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
⁴ He shall judge between the nations,
And rebuke many people;
They shall beat their swords into plowshares,
And their spears into pruning ^[a]hooks;
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
Neither shall they learn war anymore.
Isaiah 2:1-4*



Prophetic Writings...

- He then goes back into judgement and the day of the lord for Judah into chapter 3 and 4 and suddenly he says:
- *In that day the Branch of the LORD shall be beautiful and glorious; And the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and appealing For those of Israel who have escaped.*
- *³ And it shall come to pass that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy—everyone who is recorded among the living in Jerusalem. ⁴ When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the ^{4a}blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning,*
- *⁵ then the LORD will create above every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory there will be a ^{5a}covering. ⁶ And there will be a tabernacle for shade in the daytime from the heat, for a place of refuge, and for a shelter from storm and rain.*
Isaiah 4:2-6
- This is pointing somewhere beyond our own current 21st century! This is incredible information and that's why you cannot even categorise some of these writings as Old Testament!!



Judgement....!



- The majority of the first five scrolls (chapters 1-39) are judgement pronouncements upon Judah and the nations:
- As Christians, it is important to note that the Lord has inserted these warnings and inspired scriptures for a reason.
- It is too simplistic to categorise the prophetic books into the Old Testament because even our Lord Jesus said:
- *³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the ^[c]holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.
Matthew 25:31-33*

Judgement....!

- Oracles of judgment against the nations 13–23
- A. Against Babylon 13:1-14:27
- B. Against Philistia - 14:28-32
- C. Against Moab - 15:1-16:14
- D. Against Damascus (Syria) and Israel - 17:1-14
- E. Against Ethiopia - 18:1-7
- F. Against Egypt - 9:1-25
- G. Against Egypt and Ethiopia - 20:1-6
- H. Against Babylon. - 21:1-10
- I. Against Edom2- 1:11-12
- K. Against Arabia. - 21:13-17
- L. Against Judah (Jerusalem) - 22:1-14
- M. Against Shebna - 22:15-25
- N. Against Tyre - 23:1-1



Messianic Scriptures

- “I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever” (2 Sam. 7:12-13)
- ***“There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him” (Is. 11:1-2).***
- Jesse is, of course, the father of David. Isaiah tells his listeners in Jerusalem that though Israel will be chopped down by the Assyrians (and later Judah by the Babylonians), from the stump that remained a savior would arise. God’s promise to David shall not fail.





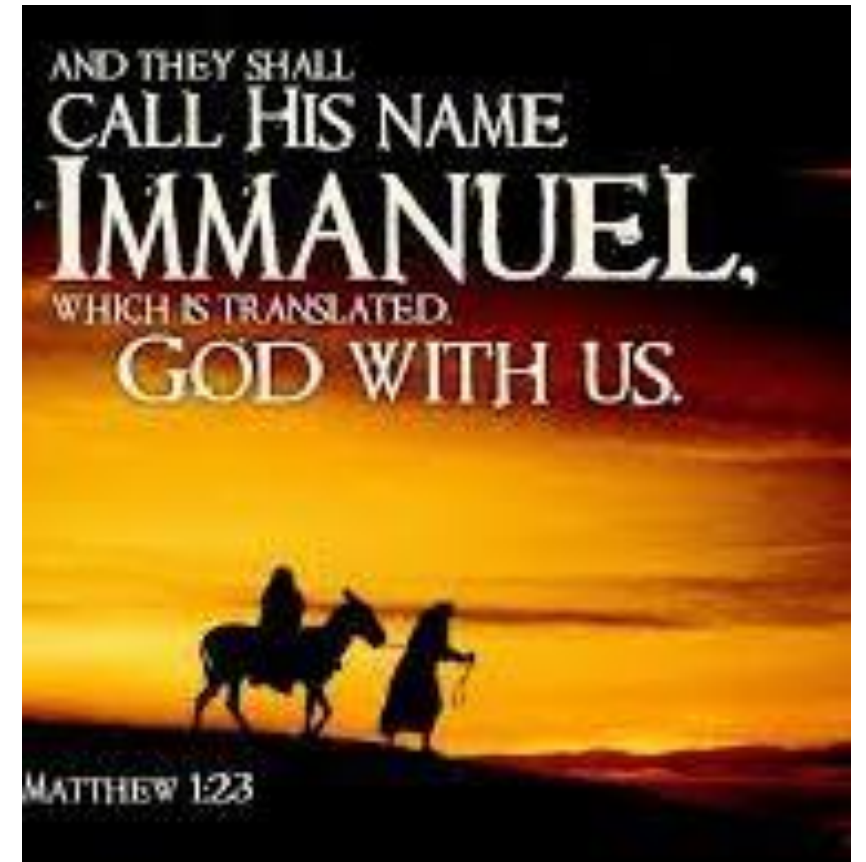
Unto Us....

- *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called*
- *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end,*
- *on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. Isaiah 9:6-7*

*us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given
upon His shoulder. And His name will
Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father
Isaiah 9:6-7*

The Virgin....

- This prophecy is echoed in the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she will become pregnant and give birth to a child who
- "will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end"
(Luke 1:32-33).
- Jesus Christ is the promised king of whom Isaiah spoke; the ultimate fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy that ***"the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel"*** (Is. 7:14).
- Matthew makes this clear in his account of Jesus' miraculous conception (**Matt. 1:22-23**). Jesus is born of the virgin Mary and he is truly Immanuel, "God with us."



A Voice Crying...

- The other Messianic portrait Isaiah paints is quite different from the royal King and the triumphant Conqueror.
- He describes a humble, suffering Servant, whom the reader will know by the herald sent before him:
- ***“A voice cries: ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God’” (Is. 40:3).***
- Matthew tells us that that herald was John the Baptist, the prophet who prepared the way by preaching a message of repentance and baptism because
- “the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matt. 3:2).



Behold My Servant...

- At the beginning of Isaiah chapter 42, the portrait of the Messiah-Servant begins to take clear shape:
- ***“Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him” (Is. 42:1).***
- The Servant is one on whom the Spirit of God rests. It is no coincidence that when John the Baptist baptized Jesus the Spirit of God descended in the likeness of a dove and rested on him (Matt. 3:16),
- a confirmation that John the Baptist is the voice in the wilderness preparing the way for Yahweh, that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, and that Jesus is the promised Messiah.





Wounded for Our Transgressions...



- Isaiah’s prophecies about the Servant are some of the most well-known Messianic predictions of the Old Testament because of how clearly they point to the person and work of Jesus Christ.
- The quintessential example of this is Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12.
- In these verses Isaiah writes a song in which a picture emerges of a Servant who is, to sum up,
- “sage, priest, sacrifice, servant, sufferer, conqueror and intercessor.
- He is the channel of God’s grace to sinners. In him the holiness and mercy of God are perfectly reconciled.”

Wounded...

- Christ is the fulfilment of the promises and prophecies in these verses,
- the one who reconciles the holiness and mercy of God on the cross.
- ***He was “wounded for our transgressions... crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed” (Is. 53:5).***
- The apostle Peter described what Christ accomplished on the cross in words that echo Isaiah’s prophecy,
- “He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Pet. 2:24).



Despised and Rejected...

- Isaiah begins by telling us that God's Servant
- ***"shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted" (Is. 52:13).***
- From exaltation Isaiah's song moves almost immediately to suffering and humiliation.
- ***The Servant is "marred, beyond human semblance" (Is. 52:14).***
- ***He is "despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief"(Is. 53:3),***
- with that sorrow and grief resulting in his death:
- ***"But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities... he was cut off out of the land of the living... And they made his grave with the wicked" (Is. 53:5, 8-9).***



Therefore...



- Death is not the end for the Servant—because he died for the sins of his people he will be rewarded. The song concludes with this hope:
- ***“Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sins of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors” (Is. 53:12).***
- Death does not conquer the Servant; rather through the Servant’s death he conquers Death itself.

As a Lamb...

- ³⁰ So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, “Do you understand what you are reading?”
- ³¹ And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² The place in the Scripture which he read was this:
 - ***“He was led as a sheep to the slaughter;
And as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
So He opened not His mouth.
³³ In His humiliation His justice was taken away,
And who will declare His generation?
For His life is taken from the earth.”***
- ³⁴ So the eunuch answered Philip and said, “I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?”
- ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him

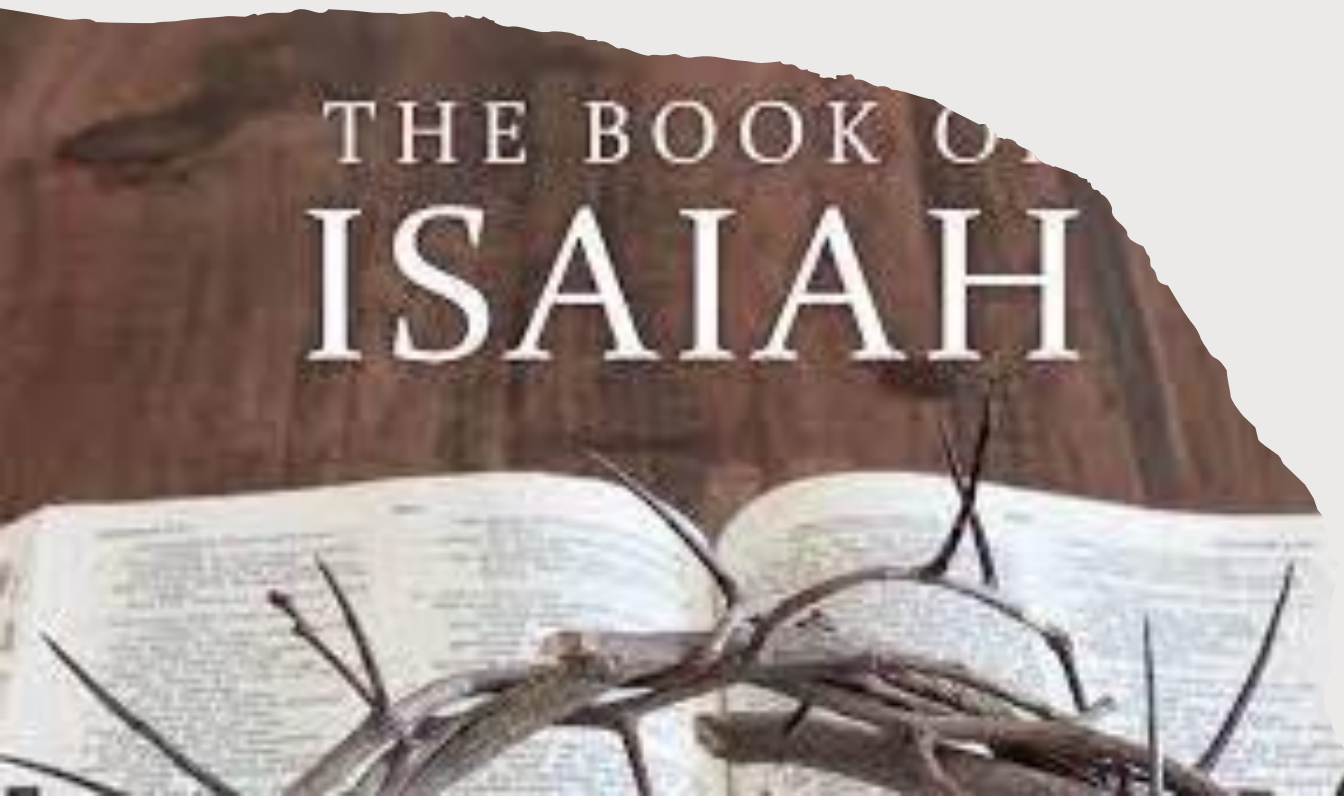


Summary...

- Isaiah stands at a turning point in the history of God's people when, after centuries of breaking their covenant relationship, God's judgment will fall upon them and, indeed, the whole world. Yet
- Isaiah proclaims the "good news" that God will bring his kingdom, renew all creation, and restore his people to himself.
- This redemption will be accomplished through a servant, who will suffer in the place of sinners that they might be forgiven and restored to God.
- Through his life, death, and resurrection, Jesus has begun to fulfill in a decisive way the promises of Isaiah.
- We await the day when Jesus returns to gather the redeemed to worship God in a new creation forever.



Summary....



- Isaiah's prophecy assumes three different historical backgrounds:
- his own context in the eighth century BC ([Isaiah 1–39](#)),
- Israel's exile in Babylon in the sixth century ([Isa. 40–55](#)),
- and after the exiles have returned to their land ([Isa. 56–66](#)).
- Yet the entirety of Isaiah's message challenged his own contemporaries and continues to remain relevant to all of God's people until Jesus returns.
- Isaiah's prophecies cover eternity past and eternity future.
- In the centuries to come, even after the Church is Raptured, people will be reading Isaiah and applying his prophecies to their context.
- This book is that good!