

# Isaiah

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 1-6

### CHAPTER 1

What sins was Judah guilty of? What did God think of their worship? If Judah would repent and obey Him, how would God respond? If not, God would turn His hand against them, accomplishing what two things?

### CHAPTER 2

In the last days what would happen to the mountain of the house of the Lord? (How did this begin to be fulfilled in the N.T. and is it being fulfilled yet today?) What evil influences had overcome the house of Jacob? How would proud men react to the Lord of hosts' day of reckoning?

### CHAPTER 3

Who is largely responsible for the downfall of Judah and how would God deal with them? How are the daughters of Judah described and what will God do to them?

### CHAPTER 4

Describe Zion in the days of the Branch.

### CHAPTER 5

Give the meaning of the parable of the vineyard. Write down the six "woes" pronounced against Judah that you might better understand their sins. Therefore, what will God do in His anger?

## CHAPTER 6

How did God cleanse Isaiah and call him to his work as prophet? What would Isaiah's preaching do to the people? How long would he preach? Would all of Judah be destroyed?

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 7-12

### CHAPTER 7

What threat did Judah face in King Ahaz' days? What did the Lord tell Ahaz would come of it? What did the sign Ahaz received mean to Judah then? As a Messianic prophecy? What would the Lord bring on Judah?

### CHAPTER 8

What message did God send Judah through the name of Isaiah's son? Judah was so afraid of the gentle waters of the king of Syria, therefore God brought what waters on them? Who was the fear and dread of Judah? Who should have been? Who would Judah consult when in trouble? Who and what should they have consulted?

### CHAPTER 9

Who was the "light" and the "child" who would make the people rejoice after their sad days of God's judgment? How did the people of Israel (or Ephraim) react to God's message of judgment? What phrase is repeated three times in this chapter and also in 10:4 which reflects God's attitude toward Israel at this time?

### CHAPTER 10

Why is "woe" pronounced on Judah? Why is "woe" pronounced on Assyria? What would the Lord do to Assyria when the Lord had completed His work on Mount Zion and Jerusalem? What kind of remnant would be left when God's judgment on Israel was finished? What should Judah's attitude about Assyria be? Describe the advance of the Assyrian army through Israel towards Jerusalem. Just how close would they get?

## CHAPTER 11

Describe the Branch who would spring from the stem of Jesse. What is the meaning of “the wolf dwelling with the lamb ...etc” and how has this been fulfilled? Who would come to the root of Jesse? What is the fulfillment of 1) the Lord “lifting up a standard for the nations”? 2) the gathering of the remnant of both Israel and Judah from the four corners of the earth and their working together to conquer and possess their enemies?

## CHAPTER 12

What thanksgiving will Israel give once God’s judgment has passed and Messianic blessings have come?

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 13-17

### CHAPTER 13

Why was God mustering an army? Describe the Babylonian's reaction to the "day of the Lord"? In strong, poetic language, the "day of the Lord" is pictured as having what effect on the universe? List some specific predictions about Babylon's destruction and, if you have access to Bible dictionaries, etc., tell how they were fulfilled.

### CHAPTER 14

Babylon's destruction is connected with what attitude of God toward Israel? How will Israel and the world react to Babylon's fall? What attitude and actions caused Babylon's downfall and produced this reaction among men? What will God do to Assyria and Philistia? What can you find about the fulfillment of these predictions?

### CHAPTER 15

Describe the distress of Moab after the Lord's judgment on them.

### CHAPTER 16

What will Moab request from Zion? Why has the Lord's judgment fallen on Moab? How did Isaiah respond when he saw the devastation and wailing of Moab? What later word did the Lord give Isaiah about Moab? Find out what you can about the fulfillment of this prediction of the Lord's judgment on Moab.

## CHAPTER 17

What was about to happen to Damascus and Ephraim (the northern kingdom of Israel)? How is Jacob (Israel) described in the aftermath of the Lord's judgment? What will the people be like then? What had they been like before which caused the Lord to judge them? What will the Lord do to the nations He uses to judge Israel?

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 18-23

(Note: If you have access to reference books, look up the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecies against these nations)

### CHAPTER 18

Describe the people of Cush (Ethiopia). How is God's judgment described? What will they do after judgment?

### CHAPTER 19

Describe the conditions in Egypt which will lead to its downfall. What would the land of Egypt be like after God's judgment? Who does God blame for Egypt's fall? Describe the relationship of Egypt (and Assyria) with God in the (Messianic) future.

### CHAPTER 20

Why did Isaiah go naked and barefoot for 3 years? How will Judah react when this judgment is fulfilled?

### CHAPTER 21

What does Isaiah see in a vision concerning God's judgment on Babylon? Who did He command to go up against them? How does Isaiah react to all that he sees? What is God's message to Dumah (Edom)? What does God say the future has in store for the Arabian tribes of Dedan and Kedar?

### CHAPTER 22

In the valley of vision, what did Isaiah see happening to his people and what was his reaction to it? When the Lord called Judah to weeping because of their sins, what was their response? What had Shebna done and what was the Lord about to do to him? Who will take his place? Who fulfilled the promise made to him? ( Rev 3:7)

## CHAPTER 23

Describe the position of Tyre and Sidon in the world before the Lord's judgment. How did others react to their fall? Who would be the Lord's instrument of judgment on them? What would happen to Tyre after 70 years?

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 24-31

### CHAPTER 24

What will the Lord do to the earth? Why? What will life be like for the few who are left? How would they respond to the Lord in the aftermath of His judgment?

### CHAPTER 25

Why does Isaiah praise God? What blessings await all peoples on His mountain? What will happen to the enemies of the Lord and His people?

### CHAPTER 26

After God's judgment on the earth, what would Judah sing about 1) the kind of people in God's city, 2) God's purpose in judging the wicked, 3) the way God's people went through His judgment of them, and 4) the future of God's people after judgment. What did Isaiah advise Judah to do until God judged the earth?

### CHAPTER 27

How are God's enemies described and what will He do to them? How is Israel, the vineyard, going to be in the days to come? Contrast God's actions toward a repentant Israel and the unrepentant enemies of Israel.

### CHAPTER 28

What will happen to the proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim? Who will become a beautiful crown to the remnant? How would the Lord teach these drunkards? What would God do to Judah's "covenant with death"? What is God's lesson from farming?

## CHAPTER 29

What would the Lord do to Jerusalem? Why was the people's worship unacceptable and why didn't they respond to the visions of true prophets like Isaiah? What was their future after God's judgment?

## CHAPTER 30

Against God's will, who did Judah turn to for help? What would come of it? What was the people's attitude toward the Lord's instruction? The result? Yet, what would the Lord do for His people? To Assyria?

## CHAPTER 31

Again, who should Judah rely on to protect them? Not rely on? What would happen to Assyria?

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 32-39

### CHAPTER 32

What would God's people be like in the future? What were the women at ease told to expect for the present? What would happen after the Spirit was poured out?

### CHAPTER 33

What would the Lord do to the destroyer of His people? Who among God's people could live with the Consuming Fire (the Lord)? Though God's people would behold a far distant land (because of the destroyer whom God used to judge them), what would they see in Zion (Jerusalem) in the future?

### CHAPTER 34

Who is the Lord's indignation against? Who is specifically mentioned as a target for God's judgment? How would they be left after God's judgment? (If you can, research the fulfillment of this prophecy)

### CHAPTER 35

Contrast Edom's future (ch 34) with that of Israel's? How were the Israelites who presently faced the Lord's judgment to react to this news? What miracles would accompany God's salvation? Describe the blessings which would come to those "marching to Zion" on the Highway of Holiness?

### CHAPTER 36

Who came against Judah and when did they come? What was Rabshakeh's message to the officials of Jerusalem? What did he shout to the people on the wall?

## CHAPTER 37

How did Hezekiah react to Rabshakeh's words? What did Isaiah tell him? Why did Hezekiah plead for God to deliver them from the Assyrians? The Lord responded with what message to Sennacherib? What was God's sign that a remnant of them would survive His judgment? How did the Lord end the Assyrian threat?

## CHAPTER 38

What did Isaiah tell Hezekiah? What happened as the result of his prayer? How did God show him he would recover? In the prayer which he wrote after his recovery, how did Hezekiah describe what it was like to face death- why did he plead to live- what did he promise if he recovered? How was he healed?

## CHAPTER 39

What bad news/good news did Isaiah tell Hezekiah after he had shown the king of Babylon all his treasures?

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 40-45

### CHAPTER 40

What comfort was Isaiah to give to Jerusalem? Who fulfilled the prophecy of a "voice" who would clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness? Compare man, grass, and the word of the Lord. Why is God so great? Israel thinks the justice they were due escaped God's notice- How was this complaint answered?

### CHAPTER 41

What did God tell the coastlands (islands) was going to happen? How did they react to the news? How did God tell Israel to react to this news? How does God prove He is God? What challenge does He issue to idols?

### CHAPTER 42

What kind of person is God's Servant predicted to be? (How is this fulfilled in Jesus?) What will God's Servant do? Why is the Lord to be praised? What is God going to do to those who trust in idols? What kind of servant had Israel been? Therefore, what happened?

### CHAPTER 43

God had poured out His anger on Israel, but why were they not to fear? What witnesses could the nations produce in support of their gods? Who were God's witnesses and His servant? Why had He chosen them? What past events in Israelite history are used as figures of God's future care of them after Babylonian captivity? How had Israel treated God? Yet, how would God bless them? What are they challenged to do? The result?

#### CHAPTER 44

What will God do for Jacob, His servant? Again, how has God given evidence of Himself? Could the idols supply such evidence? What story is told to illustrate the foolishness of idolatry? What had God done for Israel that they should shout about? What does the Lord predict about the future of Jerusalem? Who is Cyrus?

#### CHAPTER 45

What was the Lord going to do for Cyrus? Why? How ridiculous is it to argue with God? What is the connection between God the Creator and God the Deliverer from Babylon? What will those from idolatrous nations confess? Did God speak in secret, in a dark land as He declared the future? What was God's plea to the fugitives of the idolatrous nations?

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 46-53

### CHAPTER 46

Contrast Bel and Nebo (the gods of Babylon) with the true God.

### CHAPTER 47

What was the Lord going to do to Babylon? Why? Who would not be able to save them?

### CHAPTER 48

What kind of people did God find Israel to be? Why did God tell them the future? Contrast the future of Babylon and Israel. How could Israel's blessings have been greater?

### CHAPTER 49

What is the mission of the Lord's Servant? What blessings would a compassionate God give Israel in a "day of salvation"? How did God answer Zion's claim, "The Lord has forsaken me, and the Lord has forgotten me"?

### CHAPTER 50

Why did God divorce Israel and sell her? What is a disciple? Describe the attitudes and actions of the Lord's Servant which showed He was a disciple.

## CHAPTER 51

Who was Israel to look to for assurance that God's blessings would come? What other evidence from history is brought up later in the chapter to make the same point? Would God's blessings come only to Israel? How should Israel look at men? What would happen to God's cup of anger?

## CHAPTER 52

What is the good news brought to Zion? How were they told to depart Babylon? (where is this quoted in the N.T.?) What will happen to God's Servant? What will He do? How will men react to Him?

## CHAPTER 53

How would you, as Philip, begin from this Scripture and teach someone about Jesus? (cp. Acts 8:35)

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 54-59

### CHAPTER 54

What are three words the Lord uses to describe His relationship with Israel? Write down words from the chapter which contrast God's attitude/actions past vs. future and Israel's condition past vs. future.

### CHAPTER 55

Where would Israel find satisfying "food and drink"? What covenant would God make with them? Compare man's thoughts and ways with God's. What illustration shows how effective God's Word is, especially to provide Israel with joy and peace following His judgment?

### CHAPTER 56

What blessings are promised to obedient eunuchs and foreigners? (cp Dt 23:1,3; Acts 8 Ethiopian eunuch) Find N.T. references to vs. 7, 8. Describe the leaders of Israel whom God has commanded the beasts to eat.

### CHAPTER 57

Who were Israel's lovers with whom they committed adultery against God? Who will the High and Exalted One dwell with? What will follow God's anger and judgment? Find the N.T. reference to vs. 19.

### CHAPTER 58

What kind of fasting had Israel done, wondering why God had not noticed? What kind of fast did He want to see before restoring to them His blessings?

## CHAPTER 59

Why was Israel separated from God? How had they been living? What were the consequences? How did justice (recompense to Israel's enemies) come about? What covenant would God make with Israel?

## A READER'S GUIDE TO ISAIAH: CHAPTERS 60-66

### CHAPTER 60

Describe Zion in the glorious future, when God's compassion would follow His wrath- 1) their light, 2) their relationship with other nations, and 3) the relationship of other nations to God.

### CHAPTER 61

How was vs. 1-3 fulfilled in the Jesus, the Messiah? What blessings will come to them at this time? What responsibility will they carry out? Why did Isaiah rejoice and exult in God?

### CHAPTER 62

What names had Zion been called? What new names will they be called? The Lord appointed watchmen who were to keep reminding the Lord until He did what? What did the Lord swear? What was Israel to do?

### CHAPTER 63

Why was God in red apparel? On what basis did Isaiah ask the Lord to act on behalf of His people?

### CHAPTER 64

What did Isaiah want God to do? What did he confess? So what had God done? What does Isaiah request?

## CHAPTER 65

How had Israel become "smoke in God's nostrils"? So what did He do to them? Contrast the future of God's servants and those who forsake Him? Describe Jerusalem when God created a "new heavens and new earth".

## CHAPTER 66

Who would the Lord look to? What was wrong with Israel's worship? What was the word to those who trembled at the Lord's word? What is the point about "travail and delivery"? What figures of comfort are given to Jerusalem? What will the Lord do to His enemies? Who will be His worshippers? What is the end of sinners?