

ISAIAH

Author: Isaiah

Date: 740 – 680 B. C.

Isaiah has often been called “Prince of the Prophets” because of the majestic sweep of his book and the powerful way he depicts the themes of justice and redemption, culminating in the great prophecies of the Messiah. The book of Isaiah is like a miniature Bible. The first thirty-nine chapters are filled with judgment upon immoral and idolatrous people, but the final twenty-seven chapters declare a message of hope and consolation.

Isaiah prophesied in Judah (the Southern Kingdom) during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah. This well-educated prophet was evidently from a distinguished, upper-class Jewish family. Isaiah apparently maintained close contact with the royal court, but his exhortations against alliances with foreign powers were not always well received. His wife was a prophetess, and he had at least two sons. He spent most of his life in Jerusalem, and Jewish tradition says that his persecutors sawed him in two during the reign of the evil king Manasseh.

Isaiah is often called the Fifth Gospel because of all the prophecies about Jesus. Isaiah sets forth every aspect of the glory and ministry of the Messiah. Isaiah is alluded to or quoted over 65 times in the New Testament. All but 25 of the New Testament’s 260 chapters quote from Isaiah directly or indirectly.

Theme: The basic theme is found in Isaiah’s name which means, “The LORD (Yahweh) is Salvation.” Isaiah stressed 1) Salvation by faith, 2) the holiness of God, 3) the need for ethical living, 4) human sin and divine judgment, and 5) the assurance of redemption for a repentant remnant.

Key Verses: “Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson they shall become like wool.” (1:18, ESV)

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” (7:14, ESV)

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be on his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (9:6, ESV)

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” (40:31, NIV)

OUTLINE

Part One: Book of Judgment (Chapters 1—39)

- I. Judgment of Judah (Chapters 1—6)
- II. Judgments Against Israel and Assyria (Chapters 7—12)
- III. Judgments Against Other Nations (Chapters 13—23)
- IV. The Future Tribulation and Triumphs of the Kingdom (Chapters 24— 27)
- V. Judgment of Israel and Judah (Chapters 28—35)
- VI. Judgment of Assyria/Reign of Hezekiah (Chapters 36—39)

Part Two: Book of Comfort and Hope (Chapters 40—66)

- I. Prophecies of Israel’s Deliverance (Chapters 40—48)
- II. The Salvation of the Servant/Messiah (Chapters 49—57)
- III. Prophecies of Israel’s Glorious Future (Chapters 58—66)

Divided Kingdom									
Judah					Israel				
Years	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture	Years	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture
931 - 913	Rehoboam (Son)	Evil / Evil	Shemaiah	1 Ki 12, 14 2 Ch 10-12	931 - 910	Jeroboam I (servant)	Evil / Evil	Ahijah	1 Ki 12-14 2 Ch 10
913 - 911	Abijah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 15 2 Ch 13					
911 - 870	Asa (Son)	Good/Good	Hanani	1 Ki 15 2 Ch 14-16	910 - 909	Nadab (son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 15
					909 - 886	Baasha	Evil / Evil	Jehu	1 Ki 16
					886 - 885	Elah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 16
					885	zimri (Captain)	Evil / Evil	Micaiah	1 Ki 16
					885 - 874	Omri (Captain)	Evil / Evil	Elijah 1 Ki 17-19	1 Ki 16
874 - 853	Ahab (Son)	Evil / Evil		874 - 853	Ahab (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 17 2 Ch 18	
870 - 848	Jehoshaphat (Son)	Good/Good		1 Ki 22 2 Ch 17-20	853 - 852	Ahaziah (Son)	Evil / Evil	Elisha 1 Ki 19 2 Ki 2-9 2 Ki 13	1 Ki 22 2 Ki 1
848 - 841	Jehoram (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 8 2 Ch 21	852 - 841	Joram (Son of Ahab)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 3
841	Ahaziah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 8-9 2 Ch 22	841 - 814	Jehu (Captain)	Good / Evil		2 Ki 9-10
841 - 835	Athaliah (mother)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 11 2 Ch 22-23					
835 - 796	Joash (son of Ahaziah)	Good / Evil	Joel	2 Ki 11-12 2 Ch 23-24	814 - 798	Jehoahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 13
796 - 767	Amaziah (son)	Good / Evil		2 Ki 14 2 Ch 25	798 - 782	Jehoash (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 13-14
767 - 740	Uzziah aka Azariah (Son)	Good/Evil	Isaiah Micah	2 Ki 15 2 Ch 26	782 - 753	Jeroboam II (Son)	Evil / Evil	Amos Hosea Jonah (2 Kings 14:25; Jonah 1:1)	2 Ki 14
					753 - 752	Zechariah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
					752	Shallum	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
					752 - 742	Menahem	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
					742 - 740	Pekahiah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
748 - 732	Jotham (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 15 2 Ch 27	752 - 740 (rival) 733 - 722 (sole)	Pekah (Captain)	Evil / Evil	2 Ki 15	
732 - 716	Ahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 16 2 Ch 28 Is 7	732 - 722	Hoshea	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 17
716 - 687	Hezekiah (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 18-20 2 Ch 29-32 Is 36-39	Israel into Assyrian captivity - 722 BC				
687 - 642	Manasseh (Son)	Evil / Good		2 Ki 21 2 Ch 33				Nahum	
642 - 640	Amon (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 21 2 Ch 33					
640 - 608	Josiah (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 22-23 2 Ch 34-35					
608	Jehoahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 23 2 Ch 36					
608 - 597	Jehoiakim (Son of Josiah)	Evil / Evil	Habakkuk Zephaniah Jeremiah	2 Ki 23-24 2 Ch 36				Daniel	
597	Jehoiachin (Son)	Evil / Evil	Ezekiel (Lamentations)	2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36					
597 - 586	Zedekiah (Son of Josiah)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36				Obadiah	
Judah into Babylonian captivity - 586 BC									