

## **Isaiah Teaches Us:** Take God Seriously and Accept His Forgiveness

Someone Else's Mail - An overview of Isaiah:

- **Time:** 740-700 B.C.
- **Written to:** Judah (southern Israel)
- **About:** Sin, Justice, Politics, Salvation, God's evaluation, God's future plans, Israel's Messiah
- **Theme:** Judgment and Grace
- **Purpose:** So that people would take God and His Word seriously

### **Chapter 1** – An introduction to the mind of the LORD

### **Chapter 2-5** – Judah's Evaluation and Predictions

Though Israel's sins were many, one day God would judge sin, restore the nation, reign as their king, and rule the world perfectly from Jerusalem.

### **Chapter 6** – The Lord Needed a Man

Summary of Isaiah's mission: Tell the people of Judah that the LORD will judge them until all but a small remnant are destroyed.

### **Chapter 7-35** – Several Specific Predictions for Several Nations

Historical situation of Chapter 7: In the days of King Ahaz, Israel and Syria were invading Judah—yet the Lord spoke comfort through Isaiah (7:1-9)

Sample of other prophecies:

- Assyria will be used as God's instrument of judgment (to destroy northern Israel and Syria), but will itself be judged (8:3-4, 8:8, 10:15-34, 14:24-25)
- All the nations around Judah will be judged, too
- A remnant of God's people will return to the land God had promised to them, and God will rule them! (7:14, 9:6-7, 11:1-10, 25:8, 26:1-4, 35:5-10)

## **Chapter 36-39** – The history of king Hezekiah and his friend, Isaiah

Judah prospered under Hezekiah's godly leadership, and would not be taken captive during Hezekiah's lifetime.

However, because the word of the LORD is certain, and the sin of the people of Judah was not fully dealt with, there would come a time of captivity yet in the future.

## **Chapter 40-48** – Take comfort in the goodness and greatness of God

- **The goodness of God** - He wants to help.
- **The greatness of God** - He is easily able to help.

## **Chapter 49-55** – God's Solution: The SERVANT of the LORD

- The Servant's mission and scope (49:5-7)
- The Servant's suffering and the glory which would follow (50:6, 52:12-14, 53:1-12)

### **Isaiah 53—Israel's Confession**

The Servant will die for the sins of the people, satisfying the wrath of God, whose holiness requires sin to be fairly dealt with. And by knowledge of him, many will be made righteous.

Because the Servant was willing to intercede for the people, that is, He came between them and God's judgment, the LORD says the Servant is worthy of eternal glory. Those who believe in the sacrifice of this Servant share in that eternal glory!

(Compare John 19:30, 1 John 2:2, Romans 3:21-26, and John 3:16)

- Israel celebrates! (54:1...)
- Salvation by grace does not make sense! (55:1-9)

## **Chapter 56-66** – Reminders, Prophecies, and Exhortations

If God is truly holy, if God is really that kind, why don't we walk with the Lord in the light of His word? (56:1-2, 58:14, 59:1-3, 59:12-15, 59:16, 61:10-11, 64:1-5, 64:6-7, 66:1-2)

And let us remember eternity. (66:22-24)

Isaiah 66:2b, "But on this one will I look: On him... **who trembles at my word.**"