

- 1 Be concise.** Please share your thoughts and answers, but be considerate so that others will have time to share their answers also. Be charitable and kind. Be willing to share with the group, but do not try to dominate the conversation. Use the time after the class to find help with any personal issues or problems you may be confronting in your life.

“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.”

(James 1:19–20)

- 2 Be thoughtful with your answer.** Consider your words. Do not simply regurgitate what you have always heard. We have the tendency to speak in “Christianese” — words that only people who grew up on the pews would understand. Think about how your words will be heard by others. Will they understand what you are saying? Is what you are about to say going to be useful for the building up of the faith of others? Or will your words be confusing, cause hurt, or worse, damage someone’s faith? Speak without harshness or anger, but with kindness and humility.

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”

(Ephesians 4:29)

- 3 Rely on the scriptures for truth.** It is easy to rely upon conventional, worldly wisdom as truth. Bible study is about seeking God’s answers for our lives, not dispensing the advice of the world. We must consider that our natural answers may be the wrong answers if they are not founded on God’s word.

“For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.”

(1 Corinthians 1:25)

Directions:

This is a booklet to aid you in your personal study of this book. Read through the text first, discovering God's precious truths for yourself. Write down the main point of each section of text in the space provided. Use the margins on each side of the text and the backside of the page to make notations of the truths you discover and passages you do not understand. When you believe you have seen all there is in text, read and answer the questions in the booklet pertaining to that section of text. The questions are not an exhaustive list of things to look for in the text. The questions are to help you consider the points that the author was trying to convey to his audience. Be prepared to share your findings in class.

Introduction:

Isaiah son of Amoz is often thought of as the greatest of the writing prophets. His name means "The Lord saves." He was a contemporary of Amos, Hosea, and Micah, beginning his ministry in 740 BC, the year King Uzziah died (6:1). According to an unsubstantiated Jewish tradition (The Ascension of Isaiah), he was sawed in half during the reign of Manasseh (Hebrews 11:37). Isaiah was married and had at least two sons, Shear-Jashub (7:3) and Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz (8:3). He probably spent most of his life in Jerusalem, enjoying his greatest influence under King Hezekiah.

Many scholars today challenge the claim that Isaiah wrote the entire book that bears his name. Yet his name is the only named attached to it. Scholars suggest a "Deutero-Isaiah" wrote chapters 40-66 after the Babylonian captivity. They argue that 1-39 has an Assyrian background, while 40-66 is set against a Babylonian background. But Babylon is mentioned more than twice as often in 1-39 as in 40-66. The only shift is one of perspective from present time to future time.

The strongest argument for the unity of Isaiah is the expression "the Holy One of Israel," a title for God that occurs 12 times in 1-39 and 14 times in 40-66. Outside of Isaiah it appears in the OT only 6 times. Altogether, there are at least 25 Hebrew words or forms found in Isaiah that occur in no other prophetic writing. Isaiah's use of fire as a figure of judgment and his mention of the highway to Jerusalem are themes that recur throughout the book. The structure of Isaiah also argues for its unity. Chapters 36-39 constitute a historical interlude, which concludes chapters 1-35 and introduces chapters 40-66. The unity of Isaiah is supported by the book of Ecclesiasticus, the Septuagint, and the Talmud. The New Testament also claims that Isaiah wrote both sections. John 12:37-41 quotes from Isaiah 6:9,10 and 53:1 and attributes it all to Isaiah. In Romans 9:27 and 10:16-21, Paul quotes from Isaiah 10, 53, and 65 and gives the credit to Isaiah. The same is true of Matthew 3:3 and 12:17-21, Luke 3:4-6, and Acts 8:28. The view of Isaiah being written by more than one author is based on the mere assumption that divine prophecy is impossible, rejecting the predictive claims of the book.

Historical Context

Isaiah's long ministry ranged from about 740 to 680 BC (1:1). Isaiah wrote during the stormy period marking the expansion of the Assyrian empire and the decline of Israel. Under King Tiglath-Pileser III (745-727 BC) the Assyrians swept westward into Aram and Canaan. About 733 BC the kings of Aram and Israel tried to pressure Ahaz king of Judah into joining a coalition against Assyria. Ahaz chose instead to ask Tiglath-Pileser for help, a decision condemned by Isaiah. Assyria did assist Judah and conquered the northern kingdom in 722-721 BC. This made Judah even more vulnerable, and in 701 BC King Sennacherib of Assyria threatened Jerusalem itself. The godly King Hezekiah prayed earnestly and Isaiah predicted that God would force the Assyrians to withdraw from the city.

The mid-700's BC were a very prosperous era for both the nations of Israel and Judah. We get a feel for the luxury the people lived in from the prophets Amos and Hosea who concluded their prophecies just before Isaiah begins his. This prosperity caused the people to forget God and rejoice in their idols whom they gave credit for the affluence. As a result, God would use Assyria as the "rod of His anger" (10:5-6) to punish his people. Israel would fall to Assyria in 721 BC and Judah would barely escape as God spared the city of Jerusalem in answer to the righteousness of Hezekiah.

Nevertheless Isaiah warned Judah that her sin would bring captivity at the hands of Babylon, even though Babylon had not yet risen to power. Isaiah goes on to predict the restoration of the people from captivity. God would redeem his people from Babylon just as he rescued them from Egypt. Isaiah predicts the rise of Cyrus the Persian, who would unite the Medes and Persians and conquer Babylon in 539 BC. The decree of Cyrus would allow the Jews to return home, a deliverance that prefigured the greater salvation from sin through Christ.

Key Dates in World History

Assyrian Kings		Babylonian Kings		Persian Kings	
Tiglath-pileser III	745-727	Nabopolassar	625-606	Cyrus	539-530
Shalmaneser V	727-722	Nebuchadnezzar	606-562	Cambyses	530-522
Sargon II	721-705	Amel-Marduk	562-560	Darius I	522-486
Sennacherib	704-681	(Evil-Merodach)		Xerxes	486-464
Esarhaddon	681-669	Neriglissar	560-556	Artaxerxes	464-423
Ashur-banipal	669-633	Labashi-Marduk	556	Darius II	423-404
Ashur-etil-ilani	633-622	Nabonidus	556-539	Artaxerxes II	404-359
Sin-shur-ishkun	621-612	Installed son, Belshazzar		Artaxerxes III	359-338
Ashur-uballit	612-608	as regent, spending 10		Arses	338-335
Fall of Nineveh	612	years in Teima	550	Darius III	335-331
Fall of Haran	610	Fall of Babylon	539		
Fall of Carchemish	605				

Key To Our Study

The basic theme of the book is found in Isaiah's name: "Salvation Is of the Lord." The word salvation appears 26 times in Isaiah but only 7 times in all the other prophets combined. We will try to find this theme throughout the book.

Isaiah offers many prophecies concerning future events, from the events of the captivity to the last days. As we study Isaiah, look for these prophecies and be sure to note them. This booklet will provide space for you to write down those prophecies for discussion in class. Be sure to explain the fulfillment of each prophecy. Some prophecies will be easier than others to explain. Many of Isaiah's prophecies are quoted by New Testament writers to show their fulfillment. The fulfillment of other prophecies will have to be deduced through proper exegesis of the text and proper understanding of the work of the Messiah.

This study will have a Messianic emphasis. As you read the prophecies of Isaiah, look carefully for declarations of what the Messiah would accomplish and descriptions of what Israel will become under the Messiah. At the top of each study section there is space for you to write down the main theme of the section. Then answer the questions, also writing down things you find important and any questions you have from the text.

Outlining the Book:

Below is a partial outline of the book of Isaiah. Skim through Isaiah's prophecy, looking at key thoughts and headers in your Bible. Then fill in the rest of the outline.

Prophecies of Condemnation (1:1-35:10)

- 1:1-12:6 Prophecies of condemnation against _____
- 13:1-23:18 Prophecies of condemnation against _____
- 24:1-27:13 Prophecies that will take place " _____ " (look for 3 repeated words)
- 28:1-33:24 Six _____ pronounced
- 34:1-35:10 "It is the day of the Lord's _____" (34:8)

Historical Narrative (36:1-39:8)

- 36:1-22 The nation of _____ attacks Judah and Jerusalem
- 37:1-38 _____ of the Lord attacks Sennacherib
- 38:1-22 The prayer of king _____
- 39:1-8 Exile of Judah to _____ predicted

Prophecies of Comfort (40:1-66:24)

- 40:1-48:22 Prophecies of Israel's deliverance (key theme: redemption)
- 49:1-57:21 Prophecy of Israel's Deliverer (key theme: Redeemer)
- 58:1-66:24 Prophecies of Israel's glorious future

Skim through Isaiah in one sitting, noticing the themes and headers in your Bible. Write down some of the key themes and words you see:

1. Who are the kings and what is the time frame of Isaiah's prophecy? Who is the object of Isaiah's prophecy? Who is the world power during this time?
2. What is the charge against Judah? Why is this inexcusable?
3. What has their sins caused in their relationship to God? What does God think of our sins?
4. What is the people's spiritual condition? What happens to our lives under the weight of sin?
5. What was the grace of God?

— Read 2 Kings 19:32-37. What was God's gracious act?

6. What lessons do we learn about our sins, our God, and our relationship with him?

1. Why is the Lord displeased? What lessons do we learn from his displeasure?
2. What has the Lord not asked for? What does he want to have stopped?
3. Write down what the Lord declares to be the problem. How does God feel about these acts?
4. What is the result of the people's sins in terms of their relationship with God, according to the text?
5. What does the Lord require the people to do?
6. What is the Lord's invitation to the people?
7. What is choice does the Lord give the people?

1. What has happened to the people? What were they in the past? What have they become now?
2. What sins are identified as the problem in verse 23? Do we see this problem today?
3. Why do the sins of verse 23 occur when the people are no longer faithful to the Lord? Explain. How does this fit with the problems in our society today?
4. How does God describe himself in verse 24? Why does he do this?
5. What is God going to do about their sins (vs. 25-26)? What New Testament passages describe our need for purification through refining?
6. How does God redeem his people (vs 27)? Is God lowering his standards for us or maintaining his holy expectations? What does this mean for us?
7. What will happen to those who continue to rebel (vs. 28)?
8. Explain the imagery of verses 29-31. What happens to those who trust in their own strength? Can life be found outside of God's restoration?

1. What are the latter days? How do you know? When did this come?
2. What does a mountain represent in prophecy? Give supporting texts for your answer.
3. Explain what will happen regarding this mountain.
4. Why will people go to the mountain?
5. What is Zion? What will happen from Zion?
6. Explain the imagery of verse 4. When would this occur?
7. What is the call to the people?

1. Why has God rejected his people? What four things are the people "filled with?" How do we fall into the same sins and how can we avoid them? HY HAS GOD REJECTED HIS PEOPLE?

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2. What warning did God to Israel in Deuteronomy 17:14-17?

3. Ultimately, what is the cause of these sins, according to verse 11?

4. Explain the imagery and meaning of verses 12-19.

5. Where do we see the imagery of verse 19 in the New Testament?

6. What will happen in "that day?"

7. What is God's instruction in verse 22? What must we stop doing? How can we stop?

JUDGMENT DECREED (3:1-7)

1. What is being pictured in verses 1-5?

2. What is the situation in verses 6-7?

JUDGMENT EXPLAINED (3:8-12)

3. What is the reason for this judgment (vs. 8-9)?

4. What does God say will happen (vs. 9-11)? What do we learn about sin from this?

5. What else is the problem (vs. 12)?

JUDGMENT SENTENCED (3:13-4:1)

6. What did God expect from his people (vs. 14-15)?

7. What is the sin and the corresponding condemnation (3:16-4:1)?

GOD CREATES TRUE BEAUTY (4:2-6)

8. What is "the Branch?" Why is this description used? What is the expectation (4:2)?

9. What will the remnant do (4:2)?

10. What will God do for the remnant (4:3-4)? How would this be accomplished?

11. How does God see our sins?

12. What will God create? What does this mean? (cf. Exodus 13:21-22)

13. What does the image of the canopy mean? (cf. Psalm 19:5; Joel 2:16)

1. Explain the song of the vineyard. What is the meaning?
2. Consider the New Testament passage that refer to Israel as the vine or the vineyard and write those passages down.
3. **FIRST WOE (5:8-10)**. What is the condemnation? What do we learn?
4. **SECOND WOE (5:11-17)**. What are the condemnations? What do we learn from this?
5. **THIRD WOE (5:18-19)**. What is the condemnation? What do we learn from this?
6. **FOURTH WOE (5:20)**. What is the condemnation? What do we learn from this?
7. **FIFTH WOE (5:21)**. What is the condemnation? What do we learn from this?
8. **SIXTH WOE (5:22-23)**. What is the condemnation? What do we learn from this?
9. What are the consequences (5:25-30)?

1. What does Isaiah see? Why does he see this in the year King Uzziah died? Why is Uzziah important?
2. What is the repeated characteristic of God? What is the earth filled with?
3. What is Isaiah's response to this scene? Explain why this is his reaction. What do we learn about God and ourselves?
4. What is God's gracious response to Isaiah's sinful condition?
5. What is God's call (6:8)?
6. What is Isaiah's response? Why does he respond this way? What do we learn from his response for us?
7. What will be the response of the people to Isaiah's mission (6:9-10)? Does this response mean that Isaiah should not bother with his mission? What lessons do we learn for ourselves?
8. Write down five places where Isaiah 6:9-10 is quoted in the New Testament and how it is applied in those passages.

1. Write down the names of the key characters. What is the problem in this story? What are the greater theological concerns from Ahaz's problem?

2. What is God's declaration (7:4-9)? Explain verse 9.

3. Why does Ahaz not accept the offer of a sign (cf. 2 Kings 16:8-9)

4. Write down the events of the sign (7:14-17).

5. What is the meaning of the Hebrew word "almah?" Why is it ultimately irrelevant when it comes to the birth of Jesus?
(FOR FURTHER STUDY: "ALMAH" PASSAGES — GENESIS 24:43; EXODUS 2:8; PSALM 68:25; PROVERBS 30:19; SONG OF SOLOMON 1:3; 6:8)

6. Explain 7:18-20.

7. Explain the devastation in 7:21-25.

8. Write down the details of the sign (8:1-4). What does the name of the son mean?

9. What is Assyria going to do (8:5-8)? Whose land is this that is being consumed?

1. What is God's warning to Isaiah (8:11-12)? Explain what this means.
2. Explain what it meant for Isaiah to honor God as holy in this context. How then do we honor God as holy?
3. Explain the two images in verses 14-15. How would God be a sanctuary (cf. Exodus 25:8)? How would God be a stone of offense (cf. 1 Peter 2:7-12)?
4. Explain the instructions given to Isaiah in verse 16. Why is the teaching bound up?
5. Read verses 17-18.
 - A. What is Isaiah doing? What does this mean?
 - B. What is God doing with the house of Jacob? What does this mean?
 - C. How were Isaiah and his children signs?
 - D. Read Hebrews 2:13 and notice this is quoted by the writer regarding Jesus. What does it mean about Jesus and what does it mean about us?
6. What are the people doing (vs. 19)? What is this a sin?
7. What should the people have been doing (vs. 20)? What do we learn?
8. What is going to happen to the people (vs. 21-22)?

1. Notice that this section is the triumph of God's grace. God is going to act in spite of the people's failures. Be aware that Zebulun and Naphtali were the first points of attack when Assyria invaded. Throughout this prophecy you will see it is written in the past tense, sometimes called prophetic certainty. Though these events would happen in the future, they are described in the past tense to depict the certainty of the coming of these events.
2. Read 9:1-2 and then read Matthew 4:13-17. What is the fulfillment in Jesus?
3. Looking at verse 3, what has God done for the people because the light has shone?
4. What has God done for the people in verse 4 that will cause is people to rejoice?

— "The day of Midian" is a reference to how the Midianites were defeated by Gideon the judge in Judges 7-8. How was Gideon victorious? What made the victory amazing and clearly God's work? How does this information fit what Isiah is prophesying concerning the coming of the light?
5. What has God done for his people in verse 5 that will cause his people to rejoice?
6. What is God going to give that will bring all these things to pass (vs. 6)?
7. Explain the names given to this child:
— WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

— MIGHTY GOD

— EVERLASTING FATHER

— PRINCE OF PEACE
8. Write down all the ways this ruler's reign will be different from Ahaz's reign:

1. What is the repeated refrain in this section of Isaiah's prophecy? What does this phrase mean? (cf. Exodus 15:11-12; Deuteronomy 7:17-19)

ISAIAH 9:8-12

2. What are the sins that condemn the people? What lessons do we learn? (cf. Ephesians 2:9-10; 1 Corinthians 10:12; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5)

ISAIAH 9:13-17

3. What are sins that condemn the people? What lessons do we learn? (cf. James 3:1; Matthew 15:1-9,12-14)

ISAIAH 9:18-21

4. What are the sins that condemn the people? What lessons do we learn? (cf. Galatians 5:15; James 4:1)

ISAIAH 10:1-4

5. What are the sins that are sins that condemn the people? What lessons do we learn? (cf. Romans 13:1-5)

ISAIAH 10:5-19

6. What are the sins of Assyria? What lessons do we learn? (cf. Romans 6:13)

CREATING A REMNANT (10:20-34)

1. Who belongs to the remnant?
2. How does Isaiah use the Abrahamic promise to show a remnant? How does the apostle Paul in Romans 9:27-28?
3. What are the impossible things that God will do to bring about his remnant (10:25-27)?
4. How is Assyria pictured (10:28-34)?

THE REIGN OF THE BRANCH (11:1-9)

5. What is the significance of "the stump of Jesse"?
6. Why does the shoot have the Spirit of the Lord (cf. 1 Samuel 16:13)? What does this mean about his rule in contrast to other kings?
7. Write down the three characteristics of the kingdom the shoot will rule over (10:6-9). Explain what these three things mean for us.
8. How will these kingdom characteristics come about?

GATHERING THE NATIONS TO GOD (11:10-16)

9. How is the root of Jesse "a signal for the nations" (cf. John 12:31-33; Romans 15:8-13)?
10. What will happen once this signal is raised (10:11-16)?

1. What is "that day" that Isaiah is referring to?
2. What will the people do according to verse 1? Why will these do this?
3. What will the people say in verse 2?
4. Look at Exodus 15:1-2. What does it mean for God to be "my strength and my song?" Why do we sing?
5. What will the people will receive in verse 3? Consider Psalm 63:1.
6. What will the people say and do after these blessings are received (12:4-6)?

1. Who is Isaiah's oracle against in this chapter?
2. Write down the descriptions of "the day of the Lord" (13:6-26).
3. Who was going to bring about Babylon's fall (13:17)? Why is this prophecy amazing?
4. What is the promise concerning Babylon (13:17-22)?
5. What does God promise will happen to Jacob (14:1-2)?
6. Who is the oracle against (14:3-4)?
7. Who is Lucifer (14:12; SEE KING JAMES VERSION)?
8. What has caused the fall of the King of Babylon (14:4-21)?
9. Who is God judging in 14:24-27?
10. Who is God judging in 14:28-32?
11. What is the point of these judgments (14:32)?

1. What has Damascus done and what is the corresponding judgment (17:10-11)? How can we avoid this sin?
2. What is being pictured in Isaiah 19:19-25?
3. What strange thing was Isaiah asked to do during his ministry (20:1-6)?
4. What do we learn about atonement in Isaiah 22:14?
5. Read Isaiah 22:15-24. What is the message of Eliakim? Parallel this to Matthew 16:18-19.
6. What will happen to the wasted city (Isaiah 24)?
7. What is the mountain of the Lord (Isaiah 25:6)? What two things will happen on the mountain of the Lord?
8. What does it mean to "wait for the Lord" (Isaiah 25:9)? How do we do this today?

1. What is the cause of the song as this chapter begins?
2. Who comes into this city? What protects this city?
3. Who receives perfect peace?
4. Explain verse 7.
5. List three actions/characteristics of God's righteous nation (26:8-9).
6. What are God's grace and blessings supposed to cause (26:10-11)?
7. What are we to rely on exclusively (26:12)?
8. What lords and masters have ruled over us (26:13-15)?
9. What does relying on other lords and masters bring about (26:16-18)?
10. What hope is expressed in verses 19-21?

1. What does Leviathan represent? Read Job 3:8; 41:1-32; Psalm 74:14; 104:26.
2. How is the dragon symbol used by the prophets? Read Ezekiel 29:3; 32:2; Isaiah 51:9
3. What is the meaning of the Leviathan image that will happen "in that day"? (cf. Revelation 20:2-3)
4. Where did Isaiah sing of a vineyard previously? What happened to that vineyard?
5. How does God now describe himself regarding his vineyard? What is God doing for his vineyard "in that day?"
6. What does God see his vineyard doing (vs. 6)? How do we do this? What New Testament passages parallel this teaching?
7. What lessons did God want Judah to learn from their judgment (vs. 7-11)?
8. Define idolatry. Is it present in our lives?
9. What else will happen "in that day" (vs. 12-13)?

1. What does Ephraim (Israel) take their pride in (1-4)?
2. What will be the crown of the people of God in the days of Christ's kingdom (5-6)?
3. What is the first condemnation against Judah (7-8)?
4. What are the two complaints made against Isaiah's teaching (9-10)?
5. What will be the consequence of their attitude against God's word (11)?
6. What was the message the people rejected (12)? What will God's message be still (13)?
7. What have the people done by not trusting in the Lord (14-15)?
8. What will God do in response to the people's lack of trust in him (16-22)? Find the New Testament quotations of this text and explain their meanings.
9. What is the message of verses 23-29? Why should the people put their hope and trust in the Lord despite the coming turmoil and judgment?

1. Isaiah 29:1-4 describes the pending judgment that God will send against Judah. Write down what is going to happen to the city of Jerusalem.
2. "Ariel" means the hearth of the altar where sacrifices were made. Looking at verses 1-4, why do you think God calls Jerusalem "Ariel" — the Altar?
3. Isaiah 29:5-8 describes what God is going to do about the coming army sent to judge Judah. What is going to do when Jerusalem is attacked and distressed?
4. Consider that God says that he was the one distressing Jerusalem, sending armies against it (29:2-3 "I will"). But then God will visit Jerusalem and destroy the enemy (29:5-6). Why would God send armies to judge Jerusalem only to intervene and wipe out its foes? What were the inhabitants to learn from this?
5. What event are verses 5-8 referring to when the Lord of Hosts would suddenly make the foreign foes like small dust (cf. 2 Kings 19:35)?
6. Read Isaiah 29:9-10. What is the problem with the people? Why are they in this condition? What does verse 10 mean?
7. Verses 11-12 explain why they are in the condition described in verses 9-10. What are the people refusing to do concerning the Law and messages of the Lord? What do we learn from their failure?
8. Explain the hypocrisy of verse 13. What are the people doing with their mouths? What are the people doing with their hearts? What does Isaiah say is the reason they worship and fear the Lord? What lessons do we learn from this?
9. Isaiah 29:13 is quoted by Jesus in Matthew 15:1-14. How does Jesus apply this prophecy to the Pharisees? What lessons do we learn from what the Pharisees were doing?

10. What does God say he is going to do because of the hypocrisy of the people in verse 14? How is this another expression of the grace of God?

11. What will these wonders of God in verse 14a accomplish to verse 14b? Turn to 1 Corinthians 1:19 where Paul quotes this verse. How does Paul apply this prophecy to the worldly wisdom the Corinthians relied upon?

12. Looking at Isaiah 29:15, what are the people thinking about their sins before God? What lessons do we learn about this false way of thinking about our sins?

13. Verse 16 says that the thinking of the people is completely upside down. How was their thinking upside down? What were they saying and doing? What lessons do we learn from what they were doing? How do we fall into the same sin?

14. What is God going to do "in that day" (vs. 18-21)? How would God show grace again? Write down all that would now happen when Christ comes. Then write down what these things mean. Look back at verse 9 where the people were blinding themselves because they refused to put forward effort to learn the ways of God. What does it mean that "the eyes of the blind will see" (vs. 18)?

15. Read 2 Corinthians 4:3-6. How is blindness removed? What must we always look to for us to stay out of darkness and maintain our sight? What practical lessons do we learn from this?

16. Isaiah 29:22-24 continues to speak of the future hope for the people of God. According to these verses, what will God's people do? What does this look like in our lives today?

17. Is there still time to turn from the darkness and confusion (vs. 24)? What message must we give to the world about this?

ISAIAH 30:1-7

1. What sin had Judah committed? What had made Judah “stubborn children?”
2. How do we make the same mistake as Judah?

ISAIAH 30:8-17

3. Why else was Judah “a rebellious people?”
4. What are ways that we can do the same thing as the people of Judah?
5. What is the result of this sin, according to the text?
6. What was the path to salvation?

ISAIAH 30:18-26

7. Even in sin, what does God desire to do? By doing so, what is God doing for himself?
8. For the redemption of God’s people, what is going to happen (30:20-21)?
9. What will the above event cause in his people (30:22)?
10. What will God then do for his people (30:23-26)?

ISAIAH 30:27-33

11. What is God asking the people to do by describing these future events?

ISAIAH 31

1. What is the sin that is bringing God's judgment against them?
2. What lesson do we learn from verse 3?
3. What will God do despite their idolatry (31:4-5)?
4. What will the people of God do "in that day" (31:7)?

ISAIAH 32

5. What is coming and what will happen when it arrives (32:1-5)?
6. What will the people recognize (32:6-8)?
7. What is the meaning of these images to Judah (32:9-14)? Consider Deuteronomy 28:20 and 29:24-25 in your response.
8. How long will this condition last (32:15)? Then what will happen? Explain the images in 32:15-20. Consider Ezekiel 37 in your response.
9. Read Acts 1:1-8. How does the apostles' question and Jesus' answer fit in with this prophecy made by Isaiah?

1. Who is the “destroyer?” What event is this likely referring to? Consider 2 Kings 18:13-17.
2. What is Isaiah’s response on behalf of the people because of the failure of verse 1 (33:2-4)?
3. How is God able to deliver (33:5-6)?
4. What has happened to the nation of Judah (33:7-9)?
5. Why will God “now arise” (33:10)?
6. What are the results of self-reliance and independence (33:11-12)?
7. What is one of the grand purposes of God’s actions (33:13)?
8. What should our failure cause within us (33:14)?
9. Where else do the scriptures call the Lord “a consuming fire”?
10. Who can dwell with “the consuming fire” (33:15)?
11. What will God do for the people who dwell with “the consuming fire” (33:16-24)?
12. Are there rivers in Jerusalem? What is the river imagery representing (cf. Ezekiel 47:1-12; Revelation 22:1-3)

CHAPTER 34

1. Who is the object of God's wrath in this chapter?
2. Why would this nation be the object of God's wrath? What does this nation represent?
3. Why is God acting in judgment? Who are the people being defended?
4. Who was the only king to conquer Edom and keep it in subjugation (2 Samuel 8:14; 1 Kings 11:15)?
5. How is Isaiah's prophecy in this chapter relevant to the audience under attack from Assyria? What was this supposed to do for the people of Judah?

CHAPTER 35

6. What is going to happen (35:1-2)? What do these things mean? Why are these things going to happen?
7. Explain the meaning of 35:3-4. What are the people being called to do?
8. Hebrews 12:10-12 quotes this prophecy from Isaiah. What is the meaning for them and for us?
9. What are the results of the coming of the Lord (35:5-7)? What does this mean?
10. What will be in the desert (35:8-10)? What does this mean? Who gets to walk there?
11. What is the hope for us?

CHAPTER 36

1. Explain the threat of Rabshakeh in 36:4-10. List the disheartening things he shouts to the city of Jerusalem. What is the challenge of faith in the first ten verses?
2. What do Jerusalem's officials want Rabshakeh to do (36:11)? What is Rabshakeh's message (36:12)?
3. What are the difficulties to faith that are presented in verses 13-21?

CHAPTER 37

4. Describe Hezekiah's response to these threats and challenges to faith. What does Hezekiah say and do (37:1-4)?
5. What message does Isaiah give to Hezekiah? What is the purpose of the message for Hezekiah?
6. Did Hezekiah's response solve the problem (37:8-13)? What is Rabshakeh's message to Hezekiah? How is Hezekiah challenged now?
7. What does Hezekiah do in response to Rabshakeh's threat (37:14-20)? What does Hezekiah request? What lessons do we learn from Hezekiah?
8. According to Isaiah, why is God going to act (37:21)? What do we learn from this?
9. Write down what God says will happen to Assyria (37:22-35). What is the current hope? What is the future Messianic hope for Judah?
10. What actually happened (37:36-38)? What do we learn about the word of God? What do we learn about having faith in God?

Note: Chapter 38 is recording the details of what was going on with Hezekiah inside Jerusalem when Assyria had the city surrounded.

CHAPTER 38

1. What did Hezekiah do once he was told that he would die? What do we learn from this?
2. What is the basis of Hezekiah's prayer (38:3)? What do we learn from this?
3. What is the Lord's response (38:4-8)? What would be the sign this would happen?
4. Explain what Hezekiah is expressing in verses 10-15. What are his emotions and expectation?
5. What is Hezekiah's full desire to God (38:16)? What do we learn about how we can talk to God from these verses?
6. How could Hezekiah say this event was "for his welfare" (38:17)? What did Hezekiah learn that was useful to him?
7. What is Hezekiah's response to his healing (38:19-22)?

CHAPTER 39

8. After Hezekiah recovered, what did he do? What sins are being committed by Hezekiah?
9. What opportunity was missed by Hezekiah? What should he have told the Babylonian envoys?
10. What are the consequences of Hezekiah's sin?
11. Explain verse 8. What does Hezekiah mean?

ISAIAH



SINFUL NATION, A PEOPLE
WEIGHED DOWN WITH INIQUITY

CHAPTERS 1-39
SELF-STUDY WORKBOOK

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