



Christ in Isaiah: Last week we saw the four “Servant Songs” which described the Messiah as the ideal servant, extolled His work, and vividly portrayed His sacrificial suffering for man’s sins. As Isaiah 53 closed however, the Servant did not remain dead—instead God says He “*prolonged His days*” and “*saw His seed.*” This week we

encounter the final clear Messianic prophecy of Isaiah—and perhaps it is the most joyful of them all! Immanuel, having become man, living as God’s perfect servant, and dying for the sins of man, is now ready to free men from the bondage of sin. While the person spoken of in Isaiah 61 is clearly the same person as the Servant, the title “servant” is never used. Instead, the Messiah is pictured as a conquering victor and liberator; One who brings good news to the afflicted; heals the brokenhearted; liberates the captives; and proclaims the year of the Lord!

Good News!: Isaiah 61:1-3

Questions:

1. Who’s days are referred to as a comparison of the Lord’s promise to Israel? _____
2. “Why do you spend your money for what is not _____, and your wages for what does not _____?” (NKJV)
3. According to Isaiah 56, is God’s salvation limited to the Jews? _____
4. How is the death of the righteous described in Isaiah 57:1-2? _____

5. Why was God not pleased with the people’s fasting and sabbath’s? (Isa. 58)

6. What caused the people to be separate from God and hidden from His face? _____

7. Who is speaking in Isaiah 61:1-3? _____
8. What does Isaiah say our “righteousnesses” or “righteous deeds” are like? _____

9. What New Testament passage uses the same language as Isaiah 65:17? _____
10. Upon whom will the Lord look? _____

“That You May Grow Thereby...” 
A weekly Bible reading plan

Isaiah 54-66

Glorious Restoration: Judgment and Salvation

Overview

This week we cover the final chapters of Isaiah. A cursory reading of these chapters might be bewildering at first. Some of the most comforting passages of hope and promised restoration are in these chapters. At the same time, some of the sternest warnings and sharpest rebukes are found as well. What is taking place as Isaiah closes out his prophecy?

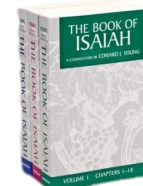
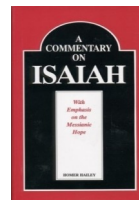
Judah’s fate was established—her sin was going to bring about punishment in the form of Babylonian captivity. Babylon would not be the final fate of God’s people though. Thus, Isaiah prophesies about restoration. These final chapters would have been remarkably comforting for the people during their years of exile, but also reminded them why they were there in the first place.

Beyond a return from Babylon, Isaiah speaks of the true and full restoration of God’s people. That would not take place simply by returning to Jerusalem—much of what Isaiah speaks of is ultimately fulfilled in the coming of Jesus. Some of these final chapters seem to even point to the second coming of Christ, when God will establish “*new heavens and a new earth.*” But beware—at the time of salvation there is also judgment. At the same time the righteous are saved, the wicked will be judged. Now is the time to prepare for eternity!

Suggested Reading Schedule

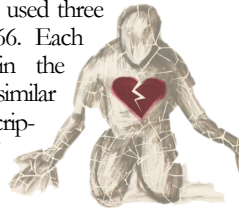
- Monday: Isaiah 54-56
- Tuesday: Isaiah 57-59
- Wednesday: Isaiah 60-61
- Thursday: Isaiah 62-64
- Friday: Isaiah 65-66

Interested in reading and studying more from the book of Isaiah? Let me recommend a couple of good works that would be sure to help! An easy to read and solid work is Homer Hailey’s *Commentary on Isaiah*. This would be my first recommendation to anyone wanting a good and understandable commentary on Isaiah. For further and deeper study, I would recommend E. J. Young’s 3-volume set on *The Book of Isaiah*. It’s a long work, but well worth the time to read!



Key Word: Contrite

The word “contrite” is used three times in Isaiah 57 and 66. Each is slightly different in the Hebrew, but all have a similar meaning: “crushed; crippled, or broken.” Isaiah always uses this word in connection with one’s heart or spirit. This word depicts how it is we view our sin, and how we approach God. Israel had often approached God in arrogance and formalism. That led to sin and ultimately punishment. To please God, one must be humble and contrite. Do some further study on this word and topic this week. Ask yourself, “Do I have a humble and contrite spirit?”





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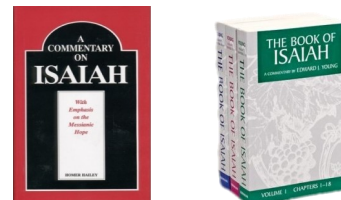
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