



## Bible Books - Book by Book Series

# Isaiah

There is one lesson for the entire book of Isaiah. Unlike most of our courses, this one requires the student to do a lot of reading in preparation for the class meeting. In fact, the expectation is that the student will read the entire Bible book of Isaiah before attending the class. The course might be more suitable for a monthly Bible Study group. Either way, I believe only serious Bible students will benefit from this kind of course. The class discussion will not mean much without the preparatory reading having been done.



### Suggested methodology:

1. Let the students have a copy of the lesson well before the class meets. (Perhaps the previous meeting)
2. The students read the Bible book and answer the questions in this lesson before the group meets.
3. At the class meeting allow time for greetings and fellowship. (Save most of this for the end)
4. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
5. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
6. Discuss the questions on the page 9. Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers, when provided, are just one opinion; you may have a better answer. It might be good to establish the norm that only those who have actually read the book should discuss it aloud.
7. Discuss whatever other questions people have on their mind about the Isaiah.
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, this class is expected to take about two hours.

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## Isaiah Introduction

Isaiah began his ministry around 740 to 750 B.C. and ended around 700 to 690 B.C. He prophesied during the times of the kings of Judah: Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah and probably through some of the reign of Manasseh. Isaiah was the son of Amoz and part of an influential, upper class family and thus knew royalty and gave advice concerning foreign affairs of the nation. He may have even been related to the royal line. He was married to a prophetess and had at least two children. Ancient legend says Isaiah started his prophetic career as an official scribe in the royal court of Uzziah and was killed by Manasseh. Isaiah may have been one of the writers of II Kings. Isaiah was a contemporary with the "minor prophets" Amos, Hosea and Micah for at least part of his ministry. Isaiah's prophecies show that he realized all nations were subject to the God of Israel, and ultimately his message was one of hope for all nations. Isaiah portrays the clearest Old Testament vision of God's plan of salvation for all the nations of the earth. Contained in Isaiah are some of the clearest and most striking prophecies of the Messiah, which are fulfilled in Jesus. Note any you find and share them with the study group later.

### A A Message of Rebuke and Grace

Is 1:1-31 God responds to Israel's rebellion with an offer of grace.

Is 2:1-4:6 After disciplining His people God will bring them to glory by the coming Messiah.

Is 5:1-6:13 Israel will be judged quickly and completely in exile.

*Please read Isaiah 1:1 - 6:13 and answer these questions:*

[A1] Our sins, now scarlet or red, will become what color instead? \_\_\_\_\_

[A2] After God's judgment so few men will live, that women will outnumber men \_\_\_\_\_ to one.

[A3] In Isaiah's vision of God's throne what word did the angels Seraphim repeat three times? \_\_\_\_\_

### B The Prophecy of Immanuel, The Messiah (Jesus Christ)

Is 7:1-25 The birth of Immanuel, and God's judgment using Assyria.

Is 8:1-9:7 Deliverance by the birth of a son.

Is 9:8-10:4 Samaria the Northern Kingdom doomed for its sins.

Is 10:5-12:6 Assyria judged and the coming of the Branch. "The Branch out of the root of Jesse," is the descendant of David who will be the Messiah – Jesus Christ

*Please read Isaiah 7:1-12:6 and answer these questions:*

[B1] Two kings attacked Jerusalem. Name one of them. \_\_\_\_\_

[B2] The child on whose shoulders the government will rest is given four names? List one of them.

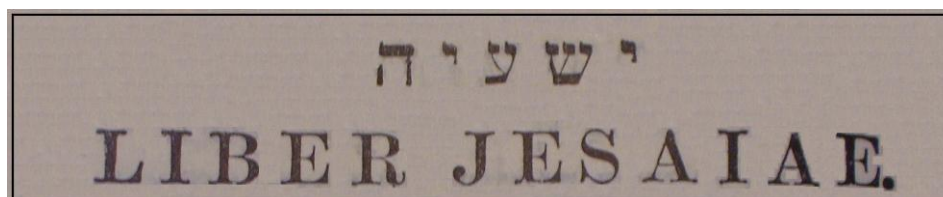
[B3] Seven spirits will rest on the branch out of the root of Jesse. Jesus Name one of them.

### C The Prophecies of the Gentile Nations

The destiny of Babylon, Assyria, Philistia, Moab, Damascus, Samaria, Ethiopia, Egypt, Edom, Arabia, and Tyre is declared. *Please read Isaiah 13:1-23:18 and answer these questions:*

[C1] How long after the prophecy of Moab before it was to take place? \_\_\_\_\_

[C2] By what nation was Egypt to be brought low? \_\_\_\_\_



----- [ANSWERS] -----

[A1] Our sins, now scarlet or red, will become what color instead? White Is 1:18

[A2] After God's judgment so few men will live, that women will outnumber men seven to one. Is 4:1

[A3] In Isaiah's vision of God's throne what word did the angels Seraphim repeat three times? Holy Is 6:1-3

[B1] Two kings attacked Jerusalem. Name one of them. Rezin the king of Aram or Pekah, king of Israel Is 7:1

[B2] The child on whose shoulders the government will rest is given four names? List one of them. Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, or Prince of Peace Is 9:6

[B3] Seven spirits will rest on the branch out of the root of Jesse. Jesus Name one of them. Spirit of the LORD, wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, or fear of the LORD Is 11: 2

[C1] How long after the prophecy of Moab before it was to take place? 3 years Is 16:14

[C2] By what nation was Egypt to be brought low? Egypt Itself Is 19:2 or Assyria Is 20:4 Either is correct)

## The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Though your sins may be **SCARLET**, I will make them white like a **MINNESOTA SNOW**. **Is 1:18**

**D The Prophecy of Judgment**

Is 24:1-23 The land will be judged for sin, but a remnant will find reason to rejoice.

Is 25:1-26:12 God is praised for the salvation of the survivors.

Is 27:1-13 God cares for and disciplines His own.

*Please read Isaiah 24:1-27:13 and answer these questions:*

[D1] The LORD of hosts will prepare a \_\_\_\_\_ for all peoples.

[D2] How long are we to trust in God? \_\_\_\_\_

**E The Prophecy of Unbelievers in Israel**

Is 28:1-29 The doubters, the selfish, and sinners will be judged.

Is 29:1-24 The deceptive will be taken away.

Is 30:1-32:20 Trust should be in God, not other nations.

Is 33:1-35:10 Enemies of God's people will suffer, but God's people will receive great privileges.

*Please read Isaiah 28:1-35:10 and answer these questions:*

[E1] One could not read the book, because he could not read at all. Why couldn't the other one read it?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[E2] How much brighter will the sun be in the day of the Lord?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[E3] Who is our judge, lawgiver and king? \_\_\_\_\_

**F Hezekiah**

Is 36:1-37:38 An invasion by Assyria looks unstoppable, but prayer brings victory.

Is 38:1-22 Hezekiah lives longer because of prayer. The king sings in thanksgiving.

Is 39:1-8 Hezekiah's pride leads to trouble. The Babylonian captivity is prophesied.

*Please read Isaiah 36:1-39:8 and answer these questions:*

[F1] Why did the Assyrian messenger Rabshakeh receive no answer to his challenge?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[F2] How many extra years did Hezekiah receive from God? \_\_\_\_\_

**G The Prophecy of Peace**

Is 40:1-41:29 A prophecy of comfort and encouragement. Idols are folly.

Is 42:1-25 The Coming One will perform many mighty miracles.

Is 43:1-44:8 Israel will be redeemed from captivity in Babylon. The Lord is the first and the last.

Is 44:9-47:15 Idolatry is sin, but God forgive, and redeems. God is sovereign over the nations.

Is 48:1-21 Deliverance is on the way. The Jews should be prepared to escape Babylon.

*Please read Isaiah 40:1-48:22 and answer these questions:*

What four things will happen to those who wait on the Lord?

[G1] \_\_\_\_\_

[G2] \_\_\_\_\_

[G3] \_\_\_\_\_

[G4] \_\_\_\_\_

[G5] When did God's people not thirst? \_\_\_\_\_

----- [ANSWERS] -----

[D1] The LORD of hosts will prepare a lavish banquet for all peoples. Is 25:6

[D2] How long are we to trust in God? Forever Is 26:4

[E1] One could not read the book, because he could not read at all. Why couldn't the other one read it?  
Because it was sealed. Is 29:11-12

[E2] How much brighter will the sun be in the day of the Lord? Seven times brighter Is 30:26

[E3] Who is our judge, lawgiver and king? The Lord Is 33:22

[F1] Why did the Assyrian messenger Rabshakeh receive no answer to his challenge? King Hezekiah had ordered silence. Is 36:21

[F2] How many extra years did Hezekiah receive from God? 15 years Is 38:5

[G1] They will gain new strength. Is 40:31

[G2] They will mount up with wings like eagles. Is 40:31

[G3] They will run and not get tired. Is 40:31

[G4] They will walk and not become weary. Is 40:31

[G5] When did God's people not thirst? When he led them through the desert Is 48:21

## The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



But they that wait on the Lord.. shall  
mount up with wings as eagles. **Is 40:31**  
**ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES!**

## **H The Coming One, the Messiah, the Suffering Servant (Jesus Christ)**

Is 49:1-26 Messiah brings light and restoration: light to the Gentiles; restoration to Israel at the appointed time

Is 50:1-11 Israel is divorced because of her sins, but the Suffering Servant of the LORD comforts the weary

Is 51:1-16 Chosen Israel, the promised nation, should look in faith to the LORD for another return to the land

Is 51:17-52:12 Israel should awake because dominion will replace slavery since God has come to rule in Zion

Is 52:13-53:12 The Servant will be exalted by His death on behalf of the sins of the people as an offering

Is 54:1-17 The people of God, therefore, will be blessed with redemption and dominion

Is 55:1-56:8 Grace will be extended to all sinners who trust in the LORD

Is 56:9-57:21 Wicked leaders and corrupt idolaters will not be found among the redeemed in the kingdom

*Please read Isaiah 49:1-57:21 and answer these questions:*

[H1] Who will not be put to shame? \_\_\_\_\_

[H2] Which patriarch did Isaiah liken to a rock? \_\_\_\_\_

[H3] Who has beautiful feet? \_\_\_\_\_

[H4] Why will the Suffering Servant get a great portion and divide booty with the strong?

\_\_\_\_\_

[H5] Who should forsake his way, return to the Lord who will have compassion and abundantly pardon.

## **I The Prophecy of Peace**

Is 58:1-14 In view of the false and ritualistic worship, the prophet looks to the coming of Messiah

Is 59:1-21 Israel, condemned for her sinfulness, will be saved by the Redeemer by the Spirit covenant

Is 60:1-22 There will be blessings for Israel and access for the Gentiles after a short period of affliction

Is 61:1-11 Messiah will be filled with the Spirit of the LORD for the work of redemption in the Messianic age

Is 62:1-63:19 The prophet, foreseeing the promises fulfilled, calls on the people of God to defeat all enemies

Is 64:1-12 In response to the mercies of God, the nation will confess its sin, calling to see God's power

Is 65:1-25 The prayer of Israel, leads to a new heaven, new earth, new Jerusalem, peace and prosperity

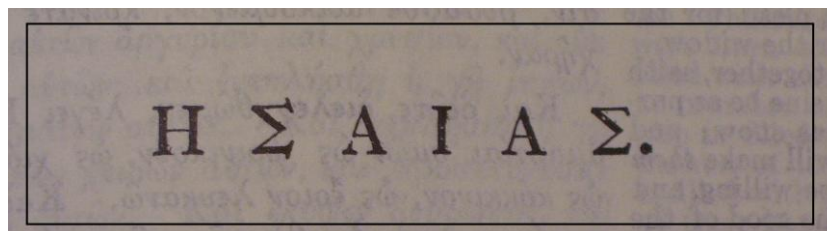
Is 66:1-24 The LORD will be sincerely worshipped and shall comfort the remnant in the day of redemption

*Please read Isaiah 58:1-66:24 and answer these questions:*

[I1] The Lord's hand is not so short that he can not what? \_\_\_\_\_

[I2] He was anointed to bring what to the afflicted? \_\_\_\_\_

[I3] In the last days when will God answer prayers? \_\_\_\_\_



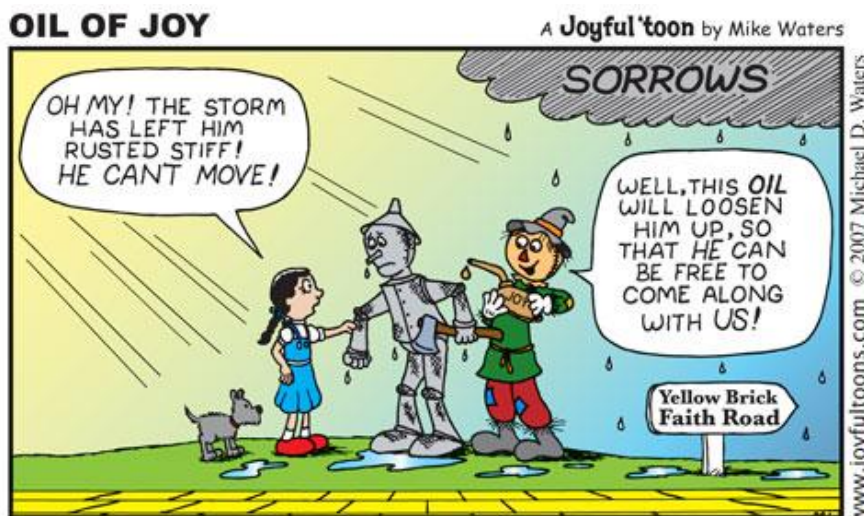
----- [ANSWERS] -----

- [H1] Who will not be put to shame? Those who hopefully wait for the Lord Is 49:23
- [H2] Which patriarch did Isaiah liken to a rock? Abraham Is 51:1-2
- [H3] Who has beautiful feet? He who brings the good and happy news of peace and salvation Is 52:7
- [H4] Why will the Suffering Servant get a great portion and divide booty with the strong?  
Because He poured out Himself to death Is 53:12
- [H5] Who should forsake his way, return to the Lord who will have compassion and abundantly pardon.  
The wicked or unrighteous Is 55:7 Either is correct



Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. - ISAIAH 55:2 NIV

- [I1] The Lord's hand is not so short that he can not what? Save Is 59:1
- [I2] He was anointed to bring what to the afflicted? Good News Is 61:1
- [I3] In the last days when will God answer prayers? While they are still being said Is 65:24



and provide for those who grieve in Zion — to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. - ISAIAH 61:3 NIV



(1) What is Isaiah talking about in Is 5:20? Can you think of anyone who does this today? Please give an example.

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2) Please summarize Isaiah chapter 12 in four or five sentences.

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(3) Please explain Isaiah 40:31 and Isaiah 49:23.

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(4) Which verse would you select to memorize from Isaiah? Why?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(5) If someone asked you what Isaiah was about what would you say?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(6) Was this book helpful to you in your Christian life? Why, or why not?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(7) Do you have any questions? About Isaiah? About the Bible? About anything having to do with Christianity? Perhaps the class as a whole can help address them.

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

----- ANSWERS -----

Your answers might be better if they are Bible based. No one is right all the time.

(1) ISAIAH 5:20 I think Isaiah is talking about people who have lost their moral compass, and can no longer even tell the difference between good and evil. This chart explains what I mean

<u>God calls it</u>	<u>We call it</u>
murder	abortion
perversion	adult entertainment
child	choice
sin & sodomy	alternate lifestyle
immorality	New Morality
cheating	abnormal social development
compromise	tolerance
disobedience	freedom
superstition	religion
idol worship	spirituality
no self-control	relaxation
prayerlessness	escaping legalism
godlessness	liberation

(Inspired by D. A. Carson)

(2) ISAIAH 12:1-6 Comfort is available to those who repent, even in the midst of God's judgment. God is completely powerful and self-sufficient and does not need to show mercy or grace, but does because He is good. This is cause to be very joyful as we enjoy the living waters (Jesus Christ) of salvation. We can expect to be exceedingly grateful to God in the end of time, so why not start now to be grateful? Our God is great beyond all hope or expectation we could possibly have. Rejoice!

(3) ISAIAH 40:31 & ISAIAH 49:23 Isaiah 40:31 and Isaiah 49:23 say that we will not be disappointed. Those of us who hope for the coming of the Lord will not be disappointed. God is trustworthy.

(4) FAVORITE VERSE I like Isaiah 40:31 "Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary." I have it posted on my office wall with a picture of an eagle soaring in the sky.

(5) Isaiah prophesied during the times of the kings of Judah: Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah and probably through some of the reign of Manasseh. Isaiah's prophecies show that he realized all nations were subject to the God of Israel, and ultimately his message was one of hope for all nations. Isaiah portrays the clearest Old Testament vision of God's plan of salvation for all the nations of the earth. Contained in Isaiah are some of the clearest and most striking prophecies of the Messiah, which are fulfilled in Jesus.

(6) Yes. It was in studying Isaiah that I first realized the Gospel of Jesus Christ is part of the Old Testament as well as the New.

