

# Session 19: Isaiah

## **Videos:**

- Overview: Isaiah 1-39 (The Bible Project)
- Overview: Isaiah 40-66 (The Bible Project)

## **Recommended Readings from the ESV Study Bible:**

- Introduction to the Prophetic Books (pp. 1229–1232)
- Introduction to Isaiah (pp. 1233–1239)

## **Handouts from The Bible Project:**

- Isaiah Overview Poster

## **Handouts from Dr. Parke:**

- Book of Isaiah - Slides from Dr. Parke's Teaching
- Prophetic Literature

## **Handouts from ESV Study Bible:**

- Chart: Kings of Judah in the Time of Isaiah
- Chart: Datable Events in the Book of Isaiah
- Map: Assyria Attacks Judah and Jerusalem



# ISA

Suffering-Servant-King Covenant Faith of All Nations

## 1-12 JUDGMENT & HOPE FOR JERUSALEM

**1-2** PURIFYING FIRE  
**OLD JERUSALEM** REBELLION, IDOLATRY & INJUSTICE  
**NEW JERUSALEM** JUSTICE & PEACE FOR ALL NATIONS

**6** ISAIAH'S TEMPLE VISION  
 ASSYRIA & BABYLON  
 NO, YOU'RE PURIFIED! NOW GO...  
 I'M DONE FOR!  
 ISRAEL  
 A HOLY SEED?

**7-12** AHAZ  
**7** "IMMANUEL - GOD WITH US"  
**9** FREEDOM FROM OPPRESSION  
**11** A NEW "BRANCH" FROM THE STUMP OF DAVID'S FAMILY  
 EMPOWERED BY GOD'S SPIRIT  
 NEW JERUSALEM  
 YOU'RE GOING DOWN! GOD WILL RAISE UP A NEW KING.

## 13-27 JUDGMENT & HOPE FOR THE NATIONS

**13-23** FALL OF BABYLON & ISRAEL'S NEIGHBORS  
 I WILL ASKED TO HEAR... AND MAKE MYSELF LIKE THE MOST HIGH GOD!  
 PHILISTIA  
 MENE  
 BUT YOU'LL BE BROUGHT DOWN TO THE GROUND!  
 BABYLON  
 EGYPT  
 ASSYRIA

**A TALE OF TWO**  
 ARCHETYPE  
**THE LOFTY CITY**  
 GOD'S KINGDOM OVER ALL NATIONS!  
**THE NEW JERUSALEM**

## 28-39 THE RISE & FALL OF JERUSALEM

**28-35** ACCUSATION OF JERUSALEM'S LEADERS  
 ALLIANCE WITH EGYPT  
 NO! YOU'LL BE SAVED BY REPENTANCE & TRUST!  
 DELIVER US FROM THE ASSYRIANS, O LORD!  
 HEZEKIAH

**39** HEZEKIAH'S FALL  
 NO! BABYLON WILL BETRAY & DESTROY JERUSALEM!  
 SURE ENOUGH 100+ YEARS LATER.

# ISAIAH

family  
missions

Hope for a  
Renewed Creation

**\* WHOSE VOICE ARE WE HEARING IN CHAPTERS 40-66? \***  
(THE PARALLELISM IS FROM AFTER EXILE - SEE EZRA-NEHEMIAH)

**A** THE VOICE OF ISAIAH TRANSPORTED INTO THE FUTURE



**B** THE VOICE OF ISAIAH AND HIS PROPHETIC DISCIPLES (SEE 8:16, 29:10-12, 30:8-9)



## MISSIONS

**CITIES** 29-27  
OF REBELLIOUS HUMANITY DESCRIBED WITH IMAGES FROM CHAPTERS 1-23  
RETURNED FOR RUIN

NO MORE SUFFERING OR HEAR!  
JERUSALEM

## JERUSALEM

THE WICKED FACE GOD'S JUSTICE REMOVED FROM THE CITY

THE WICKED FACE GOD'S JUSTICE REMOVED FROM THE CITY  
MIRACULOUSLY SAVED!  
BABYLON ATTACKS!  
2 KINGS 24-25

# EXILE!

## 40-48 ANNOUNCEMENT OF HOPE

**10** "COMFORT, COMFORT MY PEOPLE!"  
• EXILE IS OVER!  
• ISRAEL CAN RETURN HOME  
• GOD'S KINGDOM IS COMING

**11-17** THE TRIAL

THE ACCUSATION: GOD HAS IGNORED US & OUR TROUBLE! (40:27)  
GOD'S RESPONSE: EXILE WAS JUDGMENT, NOT NEGLECT. FOR ISRAEL'S SAKE, GOD RAISED UP BEREMIAH TO CONQUER BABYLON. (41)  
THE RIGHT CONCLUSION: ISRAEL'S GOD IS THE KING OF HISTORY!  
GOD'S SERVANT TO THE NATIONS

**18** ISRAEL IS STILL REBELLIOUS  
GOD'S GOING TO DO A NEW THING!

## 49-55 THE SERVANT FULFILLS GOD'S MISSION

**19** GOD'S SERVANT (49:1)  
YOU ARE NOW ISRAEL!  
GOD'S NEW! GOD'S KINGDOM!

THE MISSION:  
1 TO RESTORE ISRAEL  
2 TO BE A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

IS REJECTED & KILLED (50:9-11, 52:13-53:12)  
SERVANT'S DEEDS = A SACRIFICE FOR SIN

BUT LIVES AGAIN (53:10-12)  
I DECLARE YOU ARE RIGHT WITH GOD!  
2 Ways to Respond:  
• THE WICKED RESIST & REJECT THE SERVANT  
• THE SERVANTS (AAA "THE SEED") ARE HUMBLE & REPENT

**51-55**

## 56-66 THE SERVANTS INHERIT GOD'S KINGDOM

THE WICKED FACE GOD'S JUSTICE REMOVED FROM THE CITY

THE NEW JERUSALEM  
FORGIVE US, LORD!

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE (57)  
SERVANT ANNOUNCES GOD'S KINGDOM (60-62)  
PRAYER OF REPENTANCE (63-64)

CONTRAST BETWEEN THE WICKED & THE SERVANTS (56b-58, 65-66a)

ALL NATIONS INVITED TO JOIN GOD'S COVENANT FAMILY (56a, 66b)

THE SERVANTS INHERIT THE NEW CREATION  
PART YOUR KINGDOM COME!

created by the Bible Project





# Book of Isaiah

Slides from Dr. Parke's Teachings

SLIDE 4

## Overview of Isaiah

- one of the three "major" prophets
  - Jeremiah
  - Ezekiel
- one of five eighth-century prophets
  - Amos
  - Hosea
  - Jonah
  - Micah
- one of the Apostle Paul's "favorite" books
  - Genesis



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

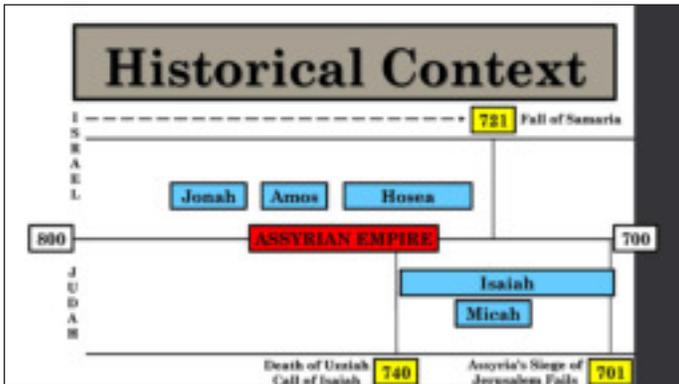
---

---

---

SLIDE 5

## Historical Context



ISRAEL

JUDAH

800 700

ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

723 Fall of Samaria

740 Death of Uzziah  
Call of Isaiah

701 Assyria's Siege of  
Jerusalem Falls

Jonah Amos Hosea

Isaiah Micah

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

SLIDE 6

## Biographical Data

**Family of Orientation**  
Father: Amoz (1:1)  
According to the Talmud (*Megillah* 14b), he was a cousin of Uzziah or a nephew of Amaziah, therefore related to David.

**Ministry**  
Calling (6:1-3)  
"In the year of King Uzziah's death" (c. 740 BC)

Location and Time: 8<sup>th</sup> Century Judah (Southern Kingdom) coinciding with the reign of four Southern Kingdom kings, Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (1:1)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





## Prophetic Literature

“More individual books of the Bible come under the heading of prophecy than under any other heading.”

### Timeframe

860 - 460 B.C.

The phenomenon called “prophecy” coincided with the institution known as “monarchy.”

### Descriptions

most difficult parts of the Bible to interpret  
misunderstandings regarding their function and form

Major Prophets: Books are relatively long

Isaiah      Jeremiah      Ezekiel

Minor Prophets: Books are relatively short in length

Hosea      Jonah      Zephaniah  
Joel      Micah      Haggai  
Amos      Nahum      Zechariah  
Obadiah      Habakkuk      Malachi

### Definitions

*“Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘See, I make you as **GOD** to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your **PROPHET**. You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall speak to Pharaoh that he let the sons of Israel go out of his land.’”*  
(Exodus 7:1-2)

A prophet is *anyone* who speaks God’s words, NOT who claims to speak for God.  
The prophets did more than predict the future.

God determined the “tense” (i.e., past, present, immediate future, distant future) of the prophetic message.

Prediction of events far distant from their own day was NOT the main concern of the prophets.

2% of OT prophecy is Messianic.

5% of OT prophecy describes the New Covenant Age.

1% of OT prophecy concerns events yet to come.

“To see the prophets as primarily predictors of future events is to miss their primary function, which was to speak for God to their own contemporaries.”

“The prophets did indeed announce the future. But it was usually the immediate future of Israel,

Judah, and other nations surrounding them.”

“The prophets have a telescopic view of the future. . . . the prophets saw future events as a succession of distant ‘peaks’ (i.e. events) without an awareness of the large time gap between them.”

The prophets were “forthtellers” rather than “foretellers.”

Forthtelling “tell forth” ≈ “make known”  
message for a prophet’s own audience about their own day or the near future

Foretelling predictions about the future

“The prophets’ primary task was to proclaim God’s word, not to preach repentance.”

In the narrative books, we hear about prophets and very little from prophets.

In the prophetic books, we hear from God via the prophets and very little about the prophets themselves.

## Content

NT teaching associates all prophetic fulfillments with Christ’s first and second comings.

Many prophecies are **conditional**: blessing hinged on a right relationship with God; repentance could reverse some judgments. \* READ Jeremiah 18:1-12

Prophecies that involve the major milestones in God’s plan for history are **unconditional** (e.g., return of Christ; God’s triumph over his enemies; creation of a new heavens and a new earth). Unlike conditional prophecies, they are not the means God will use to achieve his historical ends; they represent the ends themselves.

Prophetic books are collections of spoken oracles, not always presented in their original chronological sequence, often without hints as to where one oracle ends and another begins, and often without hints as to their historical setting.

## Fulfillment

1. Literal Fulfillment  
e.g., Acts 2:1-13 → Joel 2:28-32
2. Figurative Fulfillment  
e.g., Matthew 26:31 → Zechariah 13:7b
3. Spiritual Fulfillment  
e.g., Acts 15:16-17 → Amos 9:11-12
4. Unexpected Fulfillment  
e.g., Isaiah 7:14 and 52:13-53:12
5. Yet-to-be-Fulfilled  
Some OT and NT prophecies remain unfulfilled.

One of the keys to understanding the prophets, therefore, is that for us to see their prophecies fulfilled, we must look back upon times which for them were still future but for us are past.

### Function

The prophets were **covenant enforcement mediators**.

“God announced the enforcement (positive or negative) of his law through [the prophets].”

“The prophets did not invent the blessings or curses they announced. They may have worded these blessings and curses in novel, captivating ways, as they were inspired to do so. But they reproduced God’s word.”

drawn from Klein, Blomberg, and Hubbard, *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*, 302-310

# Kings of Judah in the Time of Isaiah

## From the ESV Study Bible

Isaiah prophesied “in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah” (1:1).

Kings of Judah	Years of Reign
Uzziah (Azariah)	767–740 B.C.
Jotham	750–735
Ahaz	735–715
Hezekiah	715–686

# Datable Events in the Book of Isaiah

From the ESV Study Bible

Uzziah's death; Isaiah's call	ch. 6	740 B.C.
Days of Ahaz	ch. 7	c. 735
Assyrian invasion	chs. 36–38	701
Sennacherib's death	37:38	681
Babylonians will destroy Jerusalem	39:6–8	586
Israel will return from Babylonian exile	chs. 40–48	538

# Assyria Attacks Judah and Jerusalem

From the ESV Study Bible

c. 701 B.C.

During the reign of Hezekiah of Judah, Sennacherib of Assyria came and attacked cities along the western edge of Judah, and he sent officials to besiege Jerusalem and convince Hezekiah to surrender. The Cushite king Tirhakah advanced from Egypt to support Hezekiah but apparently failed. The siege of Jerusalem was broken when the angel of the Lord killed 185,000 Assyrians in a single night (2 Kings 19:35). Sennacherib withdrew and returned to Nineveh in Assyria, where his own sons killed him.

