

# **THE DOVES - 2017 - INTRODUCTION TO THE PROPHET ISAIAH!**

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## **Opening Prayer**

### **Life Application Questions:**

- 1 What are the most important reasons to study the Bible Prophets? How do these reasons apply to your daily life right now and in your future?
- 2 Why has Isaiah been referred to the Messianic Prophet? What is the importance to you of Jesus' first coming and His second coming?
- 3 ***Isaiah 6:1-8*** - Isaiah's vision of the LORD and His calling and Isaiah's response is given to us. What is your vision? Who really is the LORD to you? What is Your calling? Your response?

## **Old Testament Prophets:**

### **Historical Books – 17 - (Genesis – Esther)**

- First five books – Pentateuch; all believe to be penned by Moses, regarding Israel's preparation for the Promised Land (Canaan).
- Second twelve books – Joshua to Esther, have to do with Israel's occupation of the Promised Land..

### **Poetic Books – 5 – (Job – Song of Solomon)**

- These five books are **primarily experiential in nature**, having to do with **the human heart**, involving pretty much individuals rather than the nation of Israel as did the historical books.

### **Prophetic Books – 17 (Isaiah – Malachi)**

- The first five prophetic books are called "**Major Prophets**" based on book length. (Isaiah – Daniel; longer books), whereas the last twelve books are referred to as "**Minor Prophets**" (shorter books).

### **In the Book of Hebrews/Peter, we're that in times past God spoke to the fathers by the prophets:**

***Heb 1:1-2a*** *In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son,*

***1Pe 1:10-12a*** *Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, [11] trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow. [12] **It was revealed to them** that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven..*

***2Pe 1:21*** *For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

## **Historical Dates of Israel (Abraham to Fall of Judah):**

**Abraham – 2000 B.C. Moses – the Exodus from Egypt – 1446 B.C.**

**King David – 1000 B.C.; Temple Begun – 967 B.C., 480 years from Exodus (1 Kgs 6:1)**

**Isaiah Prophecies (prox.) – 740 - 680 B.C.**

**Fall of Samaria (N. Kingdom) to Assyria – 722 B.C. (Medes & Assyrians fall – 612 B.C.)**

**Deportations from Jerusalem by Babylon – 605 (Daniel), 597 (Ezekiel) B.C.**

**Fall of Jerusalem (S. Kingdom) to Babylon – 586 B.C. (remain 70 years to 516 B.C.)**

**Fall of Babylon – 539 B.C. Remnant returns to Jerusalem – 520 B.C.**

## **ISAIAH, THE BOOK - Prophecies (prox.) – 740 - 680 B.C.**

The book of Isaiah can be divided into two major parts:

**The Assyrian Period (chapters 1-39) - The Babylonian Period (chapters 40-66).**

## **REASONS TO STUDY THE BOOK –**

Reasons why Christians should read and study the book of Isaiah:

**It increases faith in Jesus as the Messiah, as one reads the messianic prophecies that were fulfilled in Him.**

**It strengthens hope in God as the One who is ultimately in control of all things, bringing His purposes to pass.**

**It inspires love for God and His Messiah, as one reads of the blessings to be found in obedience to God's Word.**

**It enlarges understanding as to how God ruled in the nations of men in the past, and how Christ may exercise His rule in the nations today.**

## CHRONOLOGICAL GROUPING OF OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

Prophets of northern kingdom (Israel).	<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> { Jonah Amos Hosea </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> B.C. 862 787 785-725 </div> </div>	(down to perhaps 830).
Prophets of southern kingdom (Judah).	<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> { Obadiah Joel Isaiah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Jeremiah Lamentations </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> 887 800 760-698 750-710 713 626 630 629-588 </div> </div>	—Here Israel, northern kingdom, goes into Assyrian captivity (721 B.C.). —Here Judah, southern kingdom, goes into Babylonian captivity (587 B.C.).
Prophets during and after Exile.	<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> { Ezekiel Daniel Haggai Zechariah Malachi </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> 595-574 607-534 520 520-518 397 </div> </div>	Here the "Remnant" returns to Jerusalem and Judæa (from 536 B.C.).

## THE PROPHETS IN RELATION TO THE KINGS

	Saul (40)			
	David (40)			
	Solomon (40)		<i>Samuel, Nathan, Gad, and Ahijah.</i>	
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	<u>JUDAH</u>		<u>ISRAEL</u>	
Rehoboam	(17) <i>Shemaiah</i>		Jeroboam	(22) <i>Ahijah</i> (1 Kings xi., xiv.)
Abijam	(3) (2 Chron. xii.)		Nadab	(2)
Asa	(41) <i>Azariah</i>		Baasha	(24)
	(2 Chron. xv.)		Ela	(2)
Jehoshaphat	(25) <i>Hanani</i>		Zimri (one week)	<i>Jehu</i> (1 Kings xvi. 2 Chron. xix.)
Jehoram	(8) (1 Chron. xvi.)		Omri	(12)
Ahaziah	(1) OBADIAH ?		Ahab	(22) <i>Elijah, and Micaiah</i>
Athaliah	(6)		Ahaziah	(2)
Joash	(40) JOEL ?		Jehoram	(12) (1 Kings. xiv. 22).
			Jehu	(28)
Amaziah	(29)		Jehoahaz	(17) <i>Elisha.</i>
Azariah (Uzziah)	(52)		Joash	(16) JONAH and AMOS.
Jotham	(16)		Jeroboam 2 (interregnum)	(41) (12)
	ISAIAH and MICAH.		Zechariah ( $\frac{1}{2}$ year)	
Ahaz	(16)		Shallum (1 month)	HOSEA.
Hezekiah	(29)		Menahem	(10)
Manasseh	(55) NAHUM.		Pekahiah	(2)
Amon	(2) ZEPHANIAH,		Pekah	(20)
Josiah	(31) HABAKKUK,		Hoshea	(9)
Jehoahaz (3 mths.)	<i>Huldah.</i>			
Jehoiakim	(11) JEREMIAH.			
Jehoiachin (3 mths.)				
Zedekiah	(11)			

### Introduction to the Prophet Isaiah:

He prophesied around the time of 740 -680 B. C., during the reigns of kings of Judah, including **Uzziah** (good king); **Jotham** (fairly good king); **Ahaz** (wicked king) and **Hezekiah** (good king). Isaiah is often referred to as "**The Messianic Prophet**", because of his many prophecies that were fulfilled in Jesus. Isaiah's name means "*salvation of*"

the Lord" or "the Lord is salvation", symbolic of his message. The **New Testament quotes and applies more scriptures from the book of Isaiah than any other Old Testament prophet.** Yet Isaiah's work was not solely foretelling the future. A prophet of God was not primarily a future teller, but one who spoke God's word to the people of his own day. The word "prophet" literally means "to boil up like a fountain." Therefore a prophet was a spokesman for God; **not so much a "foreteller" as a "forth teller"!** Isaiah was God's spokesman to Judah and Jerusalem at time when the nation was immersed in sin. He spoke God's indictment against their sins, urging them to repent. He then foretold destruction upon them if they did not return to God. **In the midst of these dire warnings, Isaiah also foretold of a bright future with the coming Messiah.** God would not forget His covenant made to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and David. He would spare a remnant of the nation of Israel out of which would come the Messiah and His new kingdom.

### **Significant Messianic Prophecies & NT Fulfillment -- The Messiah would:**

**Be preceded by a forerunner - (1<sup>st</sup> Coming) Isaiah 40:3-5 Matthew 3:1-3; Mark 1:1-3; Luke 1:76; Luke 3:1-6; Luke 7:27; John 1:22-23**

**Isa 40:3-5** *A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. [4] Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. [5] And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."*

**Mat 3:3** *This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Similar prophecies in **Luk 3:4-5; Joh 1:23** John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"*

**Be a Son born of a virgin (1<sup>st</sup> Coming) Isaiah 7:14 Matthew 1:22-23; Luke 1:35**

**Isa 7:14** *Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.*

**Mat 1:22-23** *All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: [23] "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").*

**Be the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace (1<sup>st</sup>&2<sup>nd</sup> Coming) Isa. 9:6-7 Luke 1:32-33; Luke 1:79; John 6:51; John 14:27; Acts 10:36; Romans 9:5; Colossians 2:3;**

**Isa 9:6-7** *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. [7] Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.*

**Be The Suffering Servant Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Matthew 8:16-17; 20:28; 26:28; 27:59-60**

**Mark 10:45; Mark 14:24; Luke 22:20; John 12:37-38; Acts 8:32-35; Romans 10:16; Heb.9:28; 1 Peter 2:21-25**

**Isa 53:4** *Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. [5] But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. [6] We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

**Do Life-affirming, Redemptive Deeds Isaiah 61:1-2 Luke 4:17-21**

**New Testament Fulfillment of the First Coming of the Messiah -Isaiah 61:1-2 (JESUS Speaking):**

**Luke 4:16-21** *He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, [17] and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: [18] "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, [19] to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." [20] Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. [21] He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."*

**The First Coming of the Messiah Prophesied!**

**Isa 61:1-2a** *The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, [2a] to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor*

**The Millennial Reign – Second Coming - A Prophetic Picture of the Glory of the Future Kingdom.**

**Isa 65:25** *The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, The lion shall eat straw like the ox, And dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain," Says the LORD Isa 11:1, 3, 6-10 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.... [3] and he will delight in the fear of the LORD..... [6] The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. [7] The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. [8] The infant will play near the cobra's den, the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. [9] They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.*

### **Other Key Verses:**

**Jesus quote Isaiah three times here in John 12! –(John 12:38-41- Both from so called First and Second Isaiah)**

**Isa 53:1** *Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?*

**Joh 12:38** *This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: "Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"*

**Isa 6:9-10** *He said, "Go and tell this people: "Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving." [10] Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."*

**Joh 12:39-41** *For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere: [40] "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them." [41] Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him.*

**Prophecy (Forttelling) of the Fall of Satan: – Isa 14:13-15** [13] *You said in your heart, "I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. [14] I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High." [15] But you are brought down to the realm of the dead, to the depths of the pit. Fulfilled: Luke 10:18 He (Jesus) replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.*

**Isaiah's Vision and Calling of the Lord** – We'll expand on this account as **the calling/response is important!**

**Isa 6:1-8** *In the year that King Uzziah died (Uzziah was a very powerful and popular king, reigning 52 years, conquering enemies), I saw the Lord (God removed Isaiah's idol! He now sees the LORD!), high and exalted, seated on a throne (who sits on your throne of worship?); and the train of his robe filled the temple. [2] Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. [3] And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty (You realize how holy God is. Our God is a holy God, absolutely pure!); the whole earth is full of his glory." [4] At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. (Dan. 7:9-10; Ezek. chaps. 1, 10; Rev. 1, 4; Ex. 25:10; 40:34-38) [5] "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! (undone; stunned to silence; speechless) For I am a man of unclean lips (unclean speech - how is ours?), and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King (the true King!), the LORD Almighty." [6] Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. (Now with his confession of sin, there comes that instant cleansing of sin, and that's the wonderful thing!) [7] With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for. (Upon confession, there is that immediate forgiveness, and cleansing. "Lord, I'm a sinner. Be merciful)." The immediate forgiveness and cleansing " [8] Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" He is now ready to go. Having experienced the grace of God, he can now teach the grace of God. Having experienced the forgiveness, he can now share the forgiveness. Sharing what God has done in his own life, he is now a personal witness of the grace, and the mercy of God. "Here am I, send me." And so the Lord said, Go, and tell this people (6:9....Lord how long? And he answered, Until the cities are wasted and without inhabitant, until the houses are without man, and the land is utterly desolate., Now at the end there is a promise, and God says, "Hey dark, dark, dark days, but yet, there will be a remnant. There's going to be a survival of it. There will be those that will come through."*

### **In Summary:**

- It increases faith in Jesus as the Messiah, as one reads the messianic prophecies that were fulfilled in Him.
- It strengthens hope in God, who is ultimately in control of all things, bringing His purposes to pass.
- It inspires love for God and His Messiah, as one reads of the blessings in obedience to God's Word.
- It enlarges understanding as to how God ruled in the nations of men in the past, and how Christ may exercise His rule in the nations today.

### **CLOSING PRAYER:**