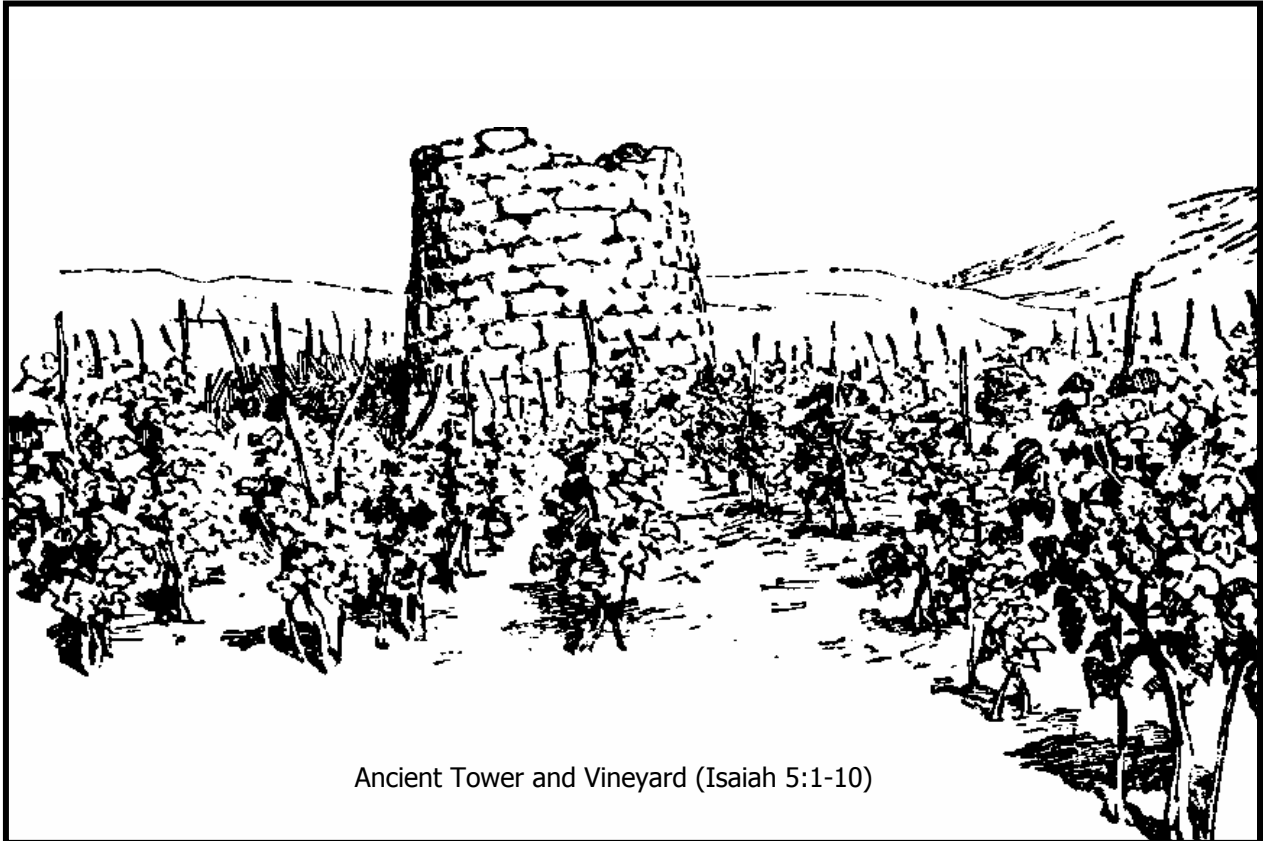


The Prophet Isaiah



Ancient Tower and Vineyard (Isaiah 5:1-10)

A study of the prophecy of Isaiah, the son of Amoz who prophesied during the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. This great prophet was called of God in his youth to “cry aloud and spare not.” His willing answer was, “Here am I send me.” For nearly sixty years he proclaimed the will of the “Holy One of Israel” to a “sinful nation, laden with iniquity.” His was a message of repentance, retribution and restoration. This beautiful book that announces the coming Messiah and His eternal kingdom in sixty-six chapters is studied in twenty-six lessons. Emphasis is given to the historical background of the book and the prophetic announcements of the coming Christ, the Lord of Glory.

The Prophet Isaiah

Introduction

Isaiah has been called the “dean of Old Testament prophets.” His book is referred to as “the Bible in miniature.” There is no denying the beauty, grandeur, passion and pathos of this book. It presents to us the prophetic announcement of God’s retribution upon a rebellious and gainsaying people and the promise of His grace and mercy to the faithful remnant that will emerge from those troublesome times. “Salvation is of the Lord,” is the meaning of the prophet’s name, and it is the message of this book. The great announcement that Isaiah brings to his people is that “Jesus is coming!”

Your study of this book will broaden both your understanding of Old Testament history and your appreciation of Israel’s place in the redemptive scheme of “the Holy One of Israel.” In it you will see Christ as the “Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world” (John 1:29). He is the “Suffering Servant of Jehovah” upon whom the iniquities of Israel are laid. He is the Great Redeemer of the children of Abraham whom God will highly exalt.

Preparation for the Study

In order to get the most out of this study, it is recommended that the student begin by reading the entire book through at least once, if not twice, before proceeding with the individual lesson studies. This will help you get a feel for the book as a whole. Following this page is an analytical chart designed to give an over all “picture” of the book’s organization and theme. There is also an outline of the book which will be followed in the class meeting in discussing the book.

The student may want to have the aid of a commentary when preparing for class. For a brief treatment of the book, I recommend Wayne Jackson’s book, *Isaiah: God’s Prophet of Doom and Deliverance* (Quality Publications). For a fuller treatment of the text consider Homer Hailey’s *A Commentary on Isaiah with Emphasis on the Messianic Hope* (Religious Supply). There are other commentaries available. Most notable among them is the three volume set by Edward J. Young and a similar work by Paul T. Butler. Another aid that may prove useful is Robert Harkrider’s workbook commentary on Isaiah, *Trust in the Holy One of Israel* (Norris Book Company). The book is about 150 pages and provides a critical outline of the book. I have found it to be very useful in my studies of the book. However, the student will find his own efforts to be the most helpful in understanding the message of this great prophet of God.

Class Participation

Attendance of the class meetings is very important. There you will have your own studies enhanced with the understanding of others. Questions you have about difficult portions of the book will be answered and additional materials not available in this study guide will be provided through audio-visual presentations and handouts. In order to get the most out of the book while giving the most to others your attendance at class meetings is essential.

The Prophet Isaiah

I. JUDGMENT FROM GOD (1-39)

A. Prophecies concerning Judah and Jerusalem (1-12)

1. Isaiah and his time (1:1)
2. Judah's rebellion and coming punishment (1:2-31)
3. The Glorious Messianic Age (2:1-4)
4. Judah's present wickedness (2:5-11)
5. A day of reckoning to come (2:12-22)
6. Judah's punishment and glory (3:1-4:6)
7. Judah's sins (5:1-30)
8. Isaiah's vision and commission (6:1-13)
9. War against Jerusalem (7:1-9)
10. The Lord's "sign" -Messiah (7:10-16)
11. Judah's coming desolation (7:17-25)
12. The Assyrian invasion (8:1-10:34)
13. Judah's hope in the coming Christ (11:1-12:6)

B. Prophecies concerning foreign nations (13-23)

1. Babylon (13:1-14:27)
2. Philistia (14:28-32)
3. Moab (15:1-16:14)
4. Damascus and Israel (17:1-14)
5. Ethiopia (18:1-7)
6. Egypt (19:1-20:6)
7. Babylon (21:1-10)
8. Edom and Arabia (21:11-17)
9. An oracle concerning Jerusalem (22:1-25)
10. Tyre and Sidon (23:1-18)

C. Judgments upon the nations (24-27)

1. Judgment - the consequence of sin (24:1-27)

2. Jehovah will deliver Zion (25:1-12)
3. Judah's consolation (26:1-21)
4. Evil punished/good rewarded (27:1-13)

D. Book of woes (28-35)

1. Woe to Israel (28:1-13)
2. Woe to Judah (28:14-29)
3. Woe to Ariel [Jerusalem] (29:1-24)
4. Woe to those seeking Egypt's aid (30:1-31:9)
5. Salvation to come (32:1-33:24)
6. Wrath to nations/Zion's future (34:1-35:10)

E. A historical section (36-39)

1. The Assyrian invasion (36-37)
 - a. Sennacherib's boast (36:1-22)
 - b. Isaiah's response (37:1-7)
 - c. A threat and a prayer (37:8-20)
 - d. God's decree concerning Sennacherib (37:21-38)
2. Hezekiah's deliverance (38)
3. Babylonian Captivity foretold (39)

II. COMFORT FROM GOD (40-66)

A. Deliverance from Babylonian Captivity (40-48)

1. The greatness of God (40:1-31)
2. The Lord's challenge to heathenism (41:1-29)
3. Promises concerning God's servant (42:1-25)
4. Judah's redemption from captivity (43:1-28)
5. The futility of idolatry (44:1-23)
6. Cyrus the deliverer (44:24-45:13)
7. Jehovah's power over the nations (45:14-25)
8. Idols versus the true God (46:1-13)
9. The impending fall of Babylon (47:1-15)
10. Deliverance from captivity (48:1-22)

B. *Jehovah's Suffering Servant (49-57)*

1. Scope of the servant's ministry (49:1-6)
2. The joyful return (49:7-13)
3. Spiritual restoration of Zion (49:14-26)
4. Jehovah's faithful servant (50:1-11)
5. Israel exhorted to trust God (51:1-23)
6. Israel admonished to repent (52:1-12)
7. The servant's suffering/victory (52:13-53:12)
8. Blessings of the new Zion (54:1-17)
9. Extension of Jehovah's mercy (55:1-13)
10. Universal blessings to obedient (56:1-8)
11. Rebuke of corrupt leaders (56:9-57:21)

C. *The glory of the Messianic Age (58-66)*

1. Contrast between true/false worship (58:1-14)
2. The effect of sin (59:1-8)
3. Confession of national wickedness (59:9-21)
4. The glory of the redeemed (60:1-22)
5. The "Jubilee" of God's favor (61:1-11)
6. Glory of spiritual Zion (62:1-12)
7. Punishment of the nations (63:1-6)
8. Lessons from history (63:7-14)
9. A prayer for victory (63:15-64:12)
10. Destiny of good and bad (65:1-25)
11. A final rebuke (66:1-9)
12. Spiritual Zion's glorious future (66:10-24)

Isaiah, "Salvation Is of the Lord"		681 BC
740 BC		
1	Assyrian	39 40 66
Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz		Babylonian
Retribution		Hezekiah
Restoration		715 BC
1-5	Indictment of Judah	40-48
6	The Call to Prophecy	DELIVERANCE
7-12	Threats & Hope	49-52
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Babylon Assyria Philistia Moab Syria Egypt Dumah Arabia Judah Tyre		58-66
28-35 Woes 36-39		"Rejected"
INVASION		"Exalted"
		"Vidorious"
		The Glorious Messianic Kingdom

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson One: *Introduction to the Book of Isaiah*

Lesson Aim: Consider the historical background of *The Book of Isaiah* in order to better understand its author and message.

Lesson Texts: Isaiah 1:1; 6:1; 7:1; 36:1-39:8

Background Texts: 2 Kings 15:1-21:18 and 2 Chronicles 26:1-33:20

Questions for Class Discussion

1. Who is the author of this book?
2. What does his name mean and why is this significant?
3. Tell us what you can about the author of this book?
4. During what period of Judah's history was this book written?
5. What political, economic and spiritual conditions were prevailing in Judah at this time?
6. From your reading of the book, what did you learn of the character of its author?
7. What specific issues does the author address in his book?
8. What is the author's view or perception of the God of Israel?
9. What is Isaiah's attitude toward Judah and Israel?
10. What is Isaiah's attitude toward the nations, that is, the Gentiles?

Summary

Summarize the message of the *Book of Isaiah*.

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Two: *Jehovah's Complaint Against Judah and Jerusalem*

Lesson Aim: Consider Jehovah's indictment of the nation for their sins and his earnest call for their repentance and reconciliation.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 1:2-2:22

Background Texts: 2 Kings 15:4,35; 16:2-18; 2 Chronicles 27:2; 28:1-5

Questions for Class Discussion

1. Unto whom does Isaiah give commandment to hear? (1:1) What is the significance of this appeal?
2. What two figures does Isaiah use to describe the sinful and rebellious character of Israel? (vv. 2,3)
3. What was the result of Israel's rebellion? (v. 4)
4. What is the significance of the question: "Why should ye be stricken *any more?*" (v.5)
5. What does the image of the wounded man signify? (v. 6)
6. What is the ultimate consequence with which God threatens rebellious Israel? (vv. 7,8)
7. Who is the "remnant" of Israel? (v. 9) Where is this passage quoted in the New Testament?
8. Who are the "rulers of Sodom" and the "people of Gomorrah"? (v.10)
9. What of theirs did God reject and why? (vv. 11-15)
10. What appeal does the prophet make to Israel in verses 16-20?
11. With what sins does Isaiah charge Jerusalem and Judah? (vv. 21-24)
12. What two things will God accomplish in His judgment upon Jerusalem? (vv. 25-31)
13. Upon what grounds does the prophet appeal for repentance? (2:1-5; cf. Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:15)
14. Why has Jehovah rejected Judah? (vv. 6-9)
15. What day is coming upon Judah and Jerusalem that they should fear? (vv. 10-22)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Three: *Judah's Judgment and the Restoration of the Remnant*

Lesson Aim: Learn that God would bring Israel down by giving them weak and wicked rulers, by allowing the oppressions of the nations and by carrying them away captive to Babylon.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 3:1-4:6

Background Texts: 2 Kings 23:26-25:21 and 2 Chronicles 33:1-36:21

Questions for Class Discussion

1. What admonition had Jehovah given Israel with respect to their leadership in Isaiah 2:22?
2. How does God prove folly of trusting in men and human wisdom? (3:1-3)
3. What would God allow to happen in Israel to further demonstrate the folly of godlessness? (vv. 4,5)
4. What would be the outcome of the social chaos that would unfold in Judah? (vv. 6-7)
5. Why is the nation in such a miserable condition? (vv. 8-9, cf. NIV or NASV)
6. What hope does a righteous man have in these circumstances? A wicked man? (vv. 10-11)
7. What had the rulers of Judah done to the people? (v. 12)
8. What indictment does Jehovah make against the spiritual and civil leaders of the land? (vv. 13-15)
9. Who are the "women of Zion"? (vv. 16,25)
10. What indictment does Jehovah make against these "women"? (v. 16)
11. What will be the fate of the "women of Zion"? (3:17-4:1)
12. According to the context, what day is "that day" in Isaiah 4:2?
13. Who is the "Branch of the Lord"? (v. 2)
14. What does the Lord create on Mount Zion "in that day"? (vv. 3-5)
15. What is the significance of the cloud of smoke by day and fire by night above the tabernacle? (v. 6)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Four: *The Parable of the Vineyard and the Call to Prophecy*

Lesson Aim: Consider further Jehovah's indictment of Israel and His purpose in calling Isaiah to prophesy of the coming calamity and destruction at the hands of Babylon.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 5:1-6:13

Background Texts: 2 Kings 15:5-7; 2 Chronicles 26:16-23; Matthew 21:33-46

Questions for Class Discussion

1. Under what figure does Isaiah describe the nation of Israel? (5:1)
2. Who or what is the "vine," "vineyard," "husbandman," "fruitful hill," all the improvements and defenses, the "grapes" which were sought and the "wild grapes" which were brought forth? (v. 2)
3. Were the husbandman's expectations unreasonable considering what he had done? (vv. 3,4)
4. What did the husbandman determine considering the condition of the vineyard? (vv. 5-7)
5. For what six sins does the prophet announce woe upon Judah? (vv. 8-23)
6. While Judah would go into captivity, what would be its effect upon Jehovah? (v.16)
7. Why would Jehovah surely send Israel into captivity in a foreign land? (vv. 24-30)
8. When did call Isaiah to prophesy to Israel? (6:1)
9. What did Isaiah see in his vision of Jehovah? (vv. 2-5; cf. John 12:40,41)
10. What is a seraphim? What is their appearance like? What did the seraphim Isaiah saw say? (vv. 2-3)
11. Why was Isaiah frightened by the vision he saw of Jehovah? (v. 5)
12. What did the seraphim place on Isaiah's lips? Where did he obtain it? What did it accomplish? (v. 7)
13. How did Isaiah answer the Lord when He said, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" (v. 9)
14. What would be the effect of Isaiah's commission to prophesy? (vv. 9-12; cf. Luke 8:10; Acts 28:26,27)
15. How many would be saved in the captivity? (v.13)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Five: *The Virgin Shall Conceive and Bare a Son*

Lesson Aim: Observe that as Judah and Israel begin to fall the prophet announces in ever clearer terms the prospect of a Messiah. In this chapter He is the Son of the Virgin and the Son of God.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 7:1-25

Background Texts: 2 Kings 15:37-16:9; 2 Chronicles 28: 5-21; Matthew 13:13-15; Luke 8:10; John 12:40,41; Acts 28:26,27; Matthew 1:18-25

Questions for Class Discussion

1. What events in the history of Judah form the background for the prophecy in this chapter? (vv. 1,2)
2. How did Ahaz and his comrades react to the Syro-Israeli threat of attack? (v. 2)
3. Where did Jehovah have Isaiah meet Ahaz and prophesy? Why here? (v. 3; 36:2)
4. What was Isaiah's firstborn son named? What is the significance of that name? (v. 3; cf. 8:18; 10:20,21)
5. What had Rezin and Pekah conspired to do in Jerusalem? (vv. 5,6)
6. What was God's judgment concerning their conspiracy? (vv. 4,7)
7. What would happen within 65 years? (vv. 8,9)
8. How did God test Ahaz's faith? (vv.10-12) What was God's sentence upon Ahaz's unbelief? (v. 9b)
9. What sign did God give as a seal of his promise to David in Psalm 89:3,4? (vv. 13-16)
10. With whom is the prophecy of Isaiah 7:14-16 concerned? (cf. Matthew 1:20-23)
11. What two different groups does Isaiah address? Who is "you" and who is "thee" and "thy"? (vv.14,17)
12. What is "that day" of Isaiah 7:18? What would happen in "that day"? (vv. 19-20)
13. What had Ahaz done in order to meet the Syrian-Israeli threat? (V. 20; cf., 2 Kings 16:7,8)
14. How would those left in the land survive? (vv. 21,22)
15. What would happen to the land of Canaan as the result of God's judgment? (vv. 23-25)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Six: *The Coming Assyrian Invasion*

Lesson Aim: Learn that God would not utterly destroy Israel at the hand of the Assyrians, but He would redeem a remnant in righteousness.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 8:1-10:34

Background Texts: 2 Kings 17:1-19:37; 2 Chronicles 32:1-23; Matthew 4:12-16; Hebrews 2:6-18

Questions for Class Discussion

1. What sign did Jehovah give Israel concerning the imminent Assyrian invasion of Palestine? (8:1-4, 18)
2. What does Mahershalalhashbaz mean? Why is that significant?
3. When was the sign given? (v. 4, cf. 2 Kings 17:1,2; 18:1)
4. What are the “waters of Shiloah”? (v. 6; cf. Nehemiah 3:15; John 9:7) What does Shiloah represent in Isaiah 8:6? What does the River Euphrates represent? (cf. Joshua 24:2, 3; Deuteronomy 1:7; 11:24).
5. Of what event does Isaiah prophesy when he says that the waters of the Euphrates “will reach even to the neck” of Judah? (v. 8)
6. Why is the prophet confident in the deliverance of Israel after having just announced their destruction at the hands of the Assyrians? (vv. 9-15)
7. In what sense was Isaiah to bind up the testimony and seal the law among God’s disciples? (vv. 16-18)
8. Where in the New Testament is Isaiah 8:17, 18 quoted and applied to Jesus? What application of this text does that writer make? What is Isaiah’s application in this context?
9. What prospect did those that rejected God’s call to repentance have? (vv. 19-22) Would God ever relent? (9:1-5)
10. When would light return to Zebulon and Naphtali? (vv. 6, 7, cf. Matthew 4:13-17; 2 Kings 15:29)
11. What does the prophet mean when he says, “For all this His anger is not turned away, but His hand is outstretched still”? (vv. 12,17,21; 10:4 cf. Isaiah 5:25)
12. Who is the instrument of God’s wrath against Israel, the Northern Kingdom? (10:5-19)
13. By whose power, might and wisdom did the king of Assyria believe he was victorious? (10:7-15) What would become of him?
14. As a result of the Assyrian captivity what would God redeem in Israel? (vv. 20-23)
15. What promise of hope does Jehovah make to Jerusalem concerning the Assyrian invader? (vv. 24-34)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Seven: *The Messiah and His Rule*

Lesson Aim: See the Messiah come forth from the fallen remains of the House of David.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 11:1-12:6

Background Text: 2 Chronicles 36:11-23; Ezra 1:1-4; Daniel 2:31-45; Acts 2:1-47; 13:22,23; Romans 15:1-16

Questions for Class Discussion

1. Who is the Branch? What other passages describe Him in this way? (v. 1)
2. With what miraculous abilities would the Branch be endowed? (vv. 2-4)
3. What character would the Branch possess? (v. 5)
4. Describe the nature and character of the reign of the Branch? (vv. 6-8)
5. To what realm does Isaiah limit the peace described in these verses? How is that significant? (v. 9)
6. Who will be included in this Kingdom of Peace? (vv. 10-12)
7. When will this kingdom be established? (vv. 11,12)
8. When was the first time that Jehovah set His hand to recover the remnant of His people? When was the second time? (v. 11)
9. What is an "ensign"? Who or what is the "ensign" Jehovah shall set up? (v. 10,12)
10. What will the re-unified Kingdom of Israel do to the nations? (vv. 12-16) What does this mean?
11. What will Jehovah dry up in the east and the west? What does this represent? (v. 15)
12. Once these obstacles are removed what will remain? Who or what is this? (v. 16)
13. What song does Isaiah sing? (12:1, 2)
14. When does Isaiah say all men will sing this song? (vv. 3-5)
15. Where does the Holy One of Israel dwell? Where is this? (v. 6)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Eight: *The Burden of Babylon*

Lesson Aim: Learn how God would use wicked Babylon to break the Assyrians after which He would deliver it into the hands of the Medes and the Persians.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 13:1-14:32

Background Texts: 2 Chronicles 28:16-27; 35:20-36:23; Jeremiah 46:1-12; Daniel 5:1-31

Questions for Class Discussion

1. Who are the “sanctified” and “mighty” ones whom God called in anger against Babylon? (vv. 1-5)
2. Describe the “day of the Lord” announced to Babylon. (vv. 6-9)
3. What figure does Isaiah use to describe the fall of Babylon? (vv. 10-18)
4. With what severity would the “day of the Lord” come?
5. What would become of Babylon? Was this prophecy fulfilled? (vv. 19-22)
6. What are “satyrs” and “dragons”? (vv. 21-22)
7. After the “day of the Lord” what would become of Jacob and Israel? (14:1-4)
8. Explain the parable of the king of Babylon? (vv. 4-23)
9. Who rejoiced at the fall of Babylon? (vv. 7,8)
10. Who meets the king of Babylon in Sheol? With what saying do they greet him? (vv. 9-11)
11. Who is Lucifer? What was his sin that caused him to fall? (vv. 12-17)
12. What was the ultimate fate of Babylon? (vv. 18-23)
13. What is the significance of mentioning Assyria again in this context? (vv. 24-28)
14. What warning is given to the Philistines following the announcement of Assyria’s removal from power? (vv. 29-31)
15. What does the prophet urge as the proper response to the announcement of such political, social and economic upheaval? (v. 32)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Nine: *Burdens Upon the Nations Surrounding Judah*

Lesson Aim: Learn how God rules in the kingdoms of men to accomplish His purpose, to glorify Himself before men and to effect their repentance unto salvation.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 15:1–20:6

Background Text: 2 Chronicles 28:1–32:23

Questions for Class Discussion

1. What does the prophet signify by naming the various cities of Moab named in his “burden”? (15:1–2)
2. Describe the judgment God brought on the Moabites. (vv. 6–9) What did this cause Isaiah to do (v. 5)
3. What did Isaiah urge Moab to send to Judah? Why send such a thing? (16:1–5)
4. What are the “fords of Arnon”? What predicament would Moab face there? (16:2)
5. Was there any hope for Moab? Why or why not? (v. 6) Why did their prayers fail? (v. 12)
6. What would become of Damascus and her confederate cities in Syria? (17:1–2) Who else was in league with Syria? (vv. 3–5) To what end was this confederacy joined?
7. Contrast God’s judgment on Syria with that which He would bring on Israel? (vv. 6–14)
8. What is the meaning of the oracle to Ethiopia? (18:1–7) When was it fulfilled? (2 Chronicles 32:23)
9. What in Egypt trembled at the presence of Jehovah? What melted? (19:1).
10. What would Jehovah disrupt which would result in the collapse of Egypt? (vv. 2–15)
11. What time does the phrase “in that day” describe? (vv. 16, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24)?
12. What would become of Egypt “in that day”? (v. 22)
13. Who is Tartan? Who is Sargon? Where is Ashdod? What happened there? (20:1)
14. What did God have Isaiah do as a sign upon Egypt and Ethiopia? (vv. 2–3)
15. What did Isaiah’s sign mean? Why have Isaiah do this in Judah?

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Ten: *The Burdens on the Nations Continue*

Lesson Aim: Learn how God rules in the kingdoms of men to accomplish His purpose, to glorify Himself before men and to effect their repentance unto salvation.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 21–23

Background Text: Daniel 5; Obadiah; 2 Kings 25; Revelation 3:7–13

Questions for Class Discussion

1. What nation is represented as the “desert of the sea”? (21:1, 9)
2. How does Isaiah react to the vision which God shows to him concerning Babylon? (vv. 2–4)
3. What is Babylon doing while her destruction advances? (v. 5)
4. What does the watchman see? When it approaches what does he announce? (vv. 6–9)
5. Who is represented as wheat threshed by Babylon in verse 10? What significance does this have?
6. What is the announcement to Edom concerning the night? What should Edom do? (vv. 11,12)
7. Who is Dedan? (Genesis 25:1–4) Who are Tema and Kedar? (Genesis 25:12–18) What would happen to these tribes of Arabs? (Isaiah 21:13–17)
8. Who is described by the term “the valley of vision”? What does it mean? (22:1; cf. Lamentations 2:8,9)
9. How were the residents of Jerusalem reacting to the impending destruction? (vv. 2, 13)
10. How did Isaiah view the circumstances of Jerusalem? (vv. 4–5, 12) What would happen? (v. 14)
11. Who is Shebna? What evil did he do? (v. 15; cf. 2 Kings 18:18,26; Isaiah 36:3 ff)
12. Who was Eliakim? Why was he chosen as a replacement for Shebna? (vv. 20–24)
13. What two classes of men in Judah do they represent? What would happen to both? (v. 25)
14. What did God purpose for the cities of Tyre and Sidon at the hands of the Babylonians? (vv. 1–16)
15. How long would Tyre’s desolation last? After that what would be true? (vv. 17–18; cf. Ezra 3:7)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Eleven: *Jehovah Will Deliver Zion*

Lesson Aim: Learn that God's judgments and mercy are universal and without respect of persons.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 24:1–27:13

Background Text: Daniel 2:31–45; Isaiah 2:1–4; Micah 4:1–4; Hebrews 12:18–29

Questions for Class Discussion

1. Upon whom does the judgment of Jehovah come? How is God's justice meted out? (24:1–6)
2. What is the cause for this judgment? (v. 3)
3. What effect does it have upon the earth and its inhabitants? (vv. 7–20)
4. When does this judgment upon the nations occur? (vv. 21–23)
5. For what three things does the prophet glorify Jehovah? (25:1–5)
6. Where does Jehovah prepare a feast? Whom does He invite? What does this signify? (v. 6)
7. What has Jehovah destroyed in His mountain? (vv. 7–9)
8. Who is Moab? What will become of him? (vv. 10–12)
9. Describe the heavenly Jerusalem? Who is allowed to enter there? (26:1–4, 7–9)
10. What is the "lofty city"? What do Jehovah and His saints do to it? (vv. 5–6, 10–11)
11. Who does Isaiah see resurrected with himself? (vv. 12–19)
12. What is the "little moment" that will pass? (vv. 20–21)
13. Who is represented by "Leviathan"? Who is represented by "the vine of red wine"? (27:1–6)
14. When will Jehovah bring Israel back to her land? (vv. 7–9)
15. What will be its condition when she returns? What will be the disposition of the people? (vv. 10–13)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Twelve: *The Book of Woes*

Lesson Aim: Understand the specific causes of Israel and Judah being carried away into captivity.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 28:1–31:9

Background Text: 2 Samuel 5:18–25; 1 Chronicles 14:11–16; 18:9–19:37

Questions for Class Discussion

1. What would be the cause of the demise of Israel? (28:1–4)
2. Who among Israel would recognize God’s glory, beauty, righteousness and strength? (vv. 5–6)
3. What had the priests and prophets in Judah done that warranted divine judgment? (v. 7)
4. What was their attitude toward Isaiah and other faithful prophets? (vv. 8–13)
5. What was the “covenant with death” which the rulers had made? (vv. 14–15; cf. 30:1–7) What was their only hope?
6. What would be their predicament when God brought the Assyrians against them? (vv. 19–20)
7. What is the significance of Mt. Perazim and the Valley of Gibeon? (vv. 21–22)
8. Explain the parable of the plowman. (vv. 23–29)
9. Why refer to Jerusalem as “Ariel”? (29:1–2; cf. Ezekiel 43:15)
10. What happened to the worship of God as a result of corruption? (vv. 1, 9–14; cf. Matthew 15:9–11)
11. What wonder would God work to humble and astound “Ariel”? (vv. 3–8) When was this fulfilled?
12. What were some in Jerusalem concealing from God? Were they successful? (vv. 15–16; Isaiah 36–6–9)
13. What does the prophet assure will be the result of God’s marvelous work? (vv. 17–24; 30:8–26)
14. What does God promise He will cause the Assyrian to do? (30:27–33; 31:6–9)
15. What would be the outcome of any alliance Judah might make with Egypt? (31:1–5; cf. 30:1–7)

The Prophet Isaiah

Lesson Thirteen: *Zion's Glorious Future*

Lesson Aim: Learn that the promised Messiah would begin His reign in righteousness after the destruction of the Assyrian Empire and the fall of Jerusalem.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 32:1–35:10

Background Text: 2 Kings 18–19; Isaiah 36–37; Obadiah, Acts 2 ; Matthew 11:1–6; Luke 4:14–31

Questions for Class Discussion

1. Describe the character of the Messiah and the citizens of His kingdom? (32:1–8; cf. 33:4–16)
2. Whom does Isaiah exclude from this kingdom of righteousness? (32:5–7)
3. What does Isaiah urge the daughters of Jerusalem to do? Why? (vv. 9–15)
4. When was Isaiah's promise of the giving of the Holy Spirit fulfilled? (v. 15)
5. After what two events would Messiah's righteous reign of peace and prosperity begin? (vv. 16–20)
6. Whose destruction does Isaiah announce in 33:1? (cf. vv. 10–12)
7. For what does Isaiah pray on Jerusalem's behalf? (vv. 2–4) Does Isaiah's prayer deliver them from the Assyrian threat? (vv. 7–9) What did deliver them? (vv. 5–6, 10–12; cf. 2 Kings 18–19)
8. What would the penitent in Judah behold? (vv. 17–24)
9. With whom does Isaiah declare God is angry? Why is God angry with them? (34:1–8)
10. Who becomes the type of all nations in this judgment? Why? (vv. 5, 9–17; cf. Obadiah 1:1ff)
11. Unto whom does God give the nations? What do the people of the world become? (vv. 9–17)
12. What message of hope does Isaiah give to the nations? (35:1–4)
13. What significance do Lebanon, Carmel and Sharon have in this prophecy?
14. When was this marvelous oasis created in the desert? When were these invalids healed? (vv. 5–8)
15. Who will travel the highway that leads to Zion? What is their condition as they travel? (vv. 9–10)