

Survey of the Prophet Isaiah

Week Four: Mar 4, 2021

Chapters 28-35: prophecies against Ephraim and Jerusalem and of Messiah's deliverance and restoration of God's glory

Chapters 36-39: siege of Jerusalem and Isaiah's prediction of Babylonian exile

To Prepare for Week Four: Read Chapters 25:1-10, 29:13-16, 35:1-10, 39:5-8

Isaiah 25 O Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

2 For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.

3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

4 For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

5 the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

6 On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

7 And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

8 he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

9 It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save
us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

10 For the hand of the Lord will rest on this mountain.

1 Corinthians 15:54

New Revised Standard Version

54 When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

“Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

Revelation 21:4

New Revised Standard Version

4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be
no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

Isaiah 29: 13 The Lord said:


Because these people draw near with their mouths
and honor me with their lips,
while their hearts are far from me,
and their worship of me is a human commandment learned by rote;
14 so I will again do amazing things with this people,
shocking and amazing.

The wisdom of their wise shall perish,
and the discernment of the discerning shall be hidden.

15 Ha! You who hide a plan too deep for the Lord,
whose deeds are in the dark,
and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?"

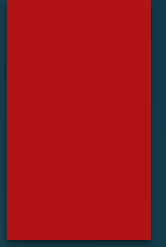
16 You turn things upside down!

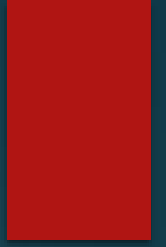
Shall the potter be regarded as the clay?
Shall the thing made say of its maker, "He did not make me";
or the thing formed say of the one who formed it,
"He has no understanding"?

A promotional image for the movie 'Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban'. It features a young Harry Potter with his signature messy brown hair and round glasses, looking directly at the viewer with a serious expression. He is dressed in his school uniform, including a white shirt, a striped tie, and a dark robe with a maroon sash. He holds his wand in his right hand. The background is a dramatic, fiery scene with golden light rays and a large, glowing orb on the left. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, golden-yellow and orange tones.

Harry Potter
AND THE
PRISONER
OF AZKABAN™







Some Potter/Clay reflections:

How often, even in church, do we decide, even in strategic planning, what is our preference our opinion, pursue it, and then fervently ask God to bless it? Shouldn't we instead ask and pursue that we would do what God is blessing rather than ask God to bless what we are doing?

Prayer: Do we pray that God might bend God's will to ours (mine), or do we pray to bend our (my) will to God's? Who is the potter; who is the clay?

Seen on a philosophy
professor's door at L-R in 1990:

Two great truths of the universe:

1. There is a God.
2. You're not it.

Greatest sin in a religion whose
greatest distinguishing factor is
monotheism is IDOLATRY. That's why
the 10 Commandments start there!



Isaiah 35 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.


He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
6 then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for
joy.

For waters shall break forth in the
wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

7 the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a
swamp,[a]
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.




To ponder: In all of the Gospels, how does Jesus begin his ministry?

1. Opening eyes of the blind (Jn. 9:1-41)
2. Giving hearing to the deaf. (Mk. 7:31-37)
3. Healing the lame. (Jn 5:2-12)
4. Giving speech to the mute. (Mt 9:31-32)

8 A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,[b]
but it shall be for God's people;[c]
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

9 No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

10 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.



In Isaiah 37 King Sennacherib of Assyria is defeated and 185,000 Assyrians trying to destroy Jerusalem are slain Then his sons assassinate him back in Nineveh. It is the beginning of the end of the Assyrian Empire's domination of the ancient near-east. (36:36-38)

In Isaiah 38 King Hezekiah of Judah becomes very ill, to the point of death.

Rulers and Prophets of Israel and Judah

KINGDOM OF ISRAEL	PROPHETS	KINGDOM OF JUDAH
Jeroboam I 931-910	925 B.C.	Rehoboam 931-913
Nadab 910-909		Abijah 913-911
Baasha 909-886	900 B.C.	
Elah 886-885		Asa 911-870
Zimri 885 (7 days)		
Omri 885-874	875 B.C.	
Ahab 874-853	Elijah 850 B.C.	Jehoshaphat 870-848 (coregent with Asa 873-870)
Ahaziah 853-852	Elisha	Jehoram 848-841 (coregent with Jehoshaphat 853-848)
Joram 852-841	Obadiah	Ahaziah 841 (1 year)
	Joel 825 B.C.	Athaliah 841-835
Jehu 841-814		Joash 835-796
Jehoahaz 814-798	800 B.C.	
Jehoash 798-782		Amaziah 796-767
Jeroboam II 782-753 (coregent with Jehoash 793-782)	Jonah 775 B.C.	Uzziah 767-740 (overlap/coregent with Amaziah 792-767; isolated 751-740)
Zechariah 753/752 (6 months)	Amos 750 B.C.	Jotham 740-736 (coregent with Uzziah 751-740; abdicates 736)
Shallum 752 (1 month)		Ahaz 736-729 (coregent with Jotham 744-736)
Menaahem 752-742	Hosea 725 B.C.	
Pekahiah 742-740		Hezekiah 729-686 (regent for Ahaz 729-715)
Pekah 740-732	Isaiah	
Hosea 732-722	Micah 700 B.C.	
FALL OF SAMARIA, 722		
	675 B.C.	Manasseh 686-642 (coregent with Hezekiah 696-686)
		Amon 642-640
	650 B.C.	Josiah 640-609
	Zephaniah 625 B.C.	Jehoahaz 609 (3 months)
	Nahum	Jehoiakim 608-598
	Habakkuk 600 B.C.	Jecooniah 598/597 (3 months; coregent with Jehoiakim 608-598)
	Jeremiah	Zedekiah 597-586
	Ezekiel 575 B.C.	FALL OF JERUSALEM, 586
	Daniel	

NOTE ABOUT DATES

While scholars' opinions about the dates of kings' reigns and the timing so some prophets' ministries may vary, the dates on this chart are based on the best knowledge and evidence available to us at this time. Most reputable scholars' dates will be close, though not necessarily identical, to these. There simply isn't enough specific information available in the biblical record to identify the timing of each king's reign with certainty.

Isaiah 39:1-4

39 At that time King Merodach-baladan son of Baladan of Babylon sent envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been sick and had recovered. 2 Hezekiah welcomed them; he showed them his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his whole armory, all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them. 3 Then the prophet Isaiah came to King Hezekiah and said to him, "What did these men say? From where did they come to you?" Hezekiah answered, "They have come to me from a far country, from Babylon." 4 He said, "What have they seen in your house?" Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them."

Isaiah 39 5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah,
“Hear the word of the Lord of hosts: 6
Days are coming when all that is in your
house, and that which your ancestors have
stored up until this day, shall be carried to
Babylon; nothing shall be left, says the
Lord. 7 Some of your own sons who are
born to you shall be taken away; they shall
be eunuchs in the palace of the king of
Babylon.” 8 Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah,
“The word of the Lord that you have
spoken is good.” For he thought, “There
will be peace and security in my days.”

Book of Isaiah – longest prophetic book; not all of it goes back to 8th-century prophet Isaiah; 3 mains sections

- (1) ch. 1-39 – Isaiah of Jerusalem – pre-Exilic (742-01)
- (2) ch. 40-55 – Deutero-Isaiah – Exile (587-39)
- (3) ch. 56-66 – Trito-Isaiah – post-Exilic (539-)