

What God Has Promised

A study from the Book of Isaiah

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Study Time Suggestions for this series

Preparation – This may be the most important part of each lesson – a time for you quiet your heart and mind and come in to the presence of your God. He is waiting to meet you and to put His loving arms around you to assure you of His grace and mercy and forgiveness. Ask Him to teach you from His Word and to assure you of His great promises to you.

Information – Read the passage suggested. Read it more than once and in more than one translation if possible. Isaiah was a prophet who came to 4 different kings of Judah with very serious warnings about judgments that were to come because of their sin and idolatry. He also encouraged the faithful believers with promises of hope and restoration. Keep in mind that while much of the information is now historical, other parts of his prophecies are yet to be fulfilled. The Messiah – Jesus – has come as Savior and we still await His coming again as King. Focus on the things that you can understand and do not worry about the things that seem confusing or complicated.

Meditation – Bible study was never meant to be only an intellectual exercise. The Bible is God's living message to His children. Just as you would read a love letter over and over again, it is good to saturate yourself with God's promises and His message to you. In quietness and humility, let God come to you and bring into your spirit and heart, the things that He would like reveal to you. Give yourself time to receive His mercy, His grace, and His love.

Invitation – God's promises are for you to receive. They have always been true and they have never changed. God invites you to believe them and to receive them by faith, so that you can experience His power and His blessing every day and anticipate with joy what He has planned for you in the future.

What God Has Promised - Forgiveness

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 1

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**“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord.
‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.’”** Isaiah 1:18

None of us like to listen to prophets of “doom and gloom”, do we? There have always been those people who focus on the miseries of the past, the dark side of the present and the seemingly hopelessness of the future. Isaiah, the Biblical prophet, is not like that. He was sent by God to bring a very serious and realistic word about the reality of God’s judgment on those who live in continuous rebellion against Him and who choose to worship other gods. But right alongside of these proclamations, is the salvation and protection that God offers to all those who trust and obey Him – both from His chosen people, Israel, and from every other nation. Where do you fit in?

PREPARATION – Spend a little time in worship and praise of the Almighty God. Isaiah 44: 1 – 4 will help you to focus on Him. (Put your own name in the place of Jacob, Israel and Jeshurun, which is a term of endearment for Israel.)

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 1.** Try to read it in 2 or 3 different translations. Read it out loud and quietly.

1. Give a title or summary state about each section of the chapter.
1 – 9 –

10 – 17 -

18 - 20 –

21 – 31 –
2. How does Isaiah describe the attitudes and behavior of the Israelites?
3. Why are their sacrifices not acceptable to the Lord? What do they need to change?
Proverbs 21: 2 – 3
4. Zion, the city of Jerusalem, represented the heart of the worship of the one true God of Israel. What does God want for this place? What does He promise to do in order to accomplish His desires?
Ezekiel 37: 23 - 28
5. There is only one way to experience God’s forgiveness and cleansing. How is it described? To what do you think this picture could be referring? How is this described in the New Testament?
Isaiah 1: 18 – 19
Isaiah 59: 1 – 4, 20
Ephesians 1: 7
Colossians 1: 14
Colossians 2: 13 - 15
I John 1: 9

MEDITATION –

1. Where do you think any of these warnings might be applicable to your life?
2. Rewrite the instructions in verses 16 and 17. Do all of these apply to believers today?
3. Why are we so prone to want to follow rules and guard certain rituals rather than open ourselves up to let God really change us from the inside?

INVITATION – Take some time to reflect on David’s Psalm of Repentance – Psalm 51: 5 – 13

Write it out phrase by phrase and make it your own prayer to the Lord. He is waiting to meet you and to keep His promise to you!

What God Has Promised – Judgment

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 2

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“Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord.” Isaiah 2:5

Sometimes an author will tell a fascinating story by giving you glimpses into the life of a family throughout several generations. The writer may choose to write about scenes from decades long ago alternately with the experiences of the people living now. If the author is clever and clear, you will be able to distinguish which era and personalities are being portrayed, but sometimes it can be quite confusing to the reader. In the prophecies of Isaiah there is no effort given to making the time line obvious. The events of judgment can refer to the immediate destruction of the Northern Kingdom, Israel, or the coming demise of Judah, with their eventual restoration. The promises of a Messiah might be referring to either the first or the second coming of God’s Son, Jesus. He will be coming as Savior and then He will come as king over the new Jerusalem, a new heaven and a new earth. When the time line is clear to you, be glad. When it isn’t, learn as much as you can and leave the rest to another day!

PREPARATION – Take some time to join Isaiah in one of his songs of praise, Isaiah 12.

Enjoy His presence with you and express some of your own thanksgiving to Jesus.

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 2 and 3.** Use a variety of translations. Read them out loud and quietly.

1. What time period is being described?

2: 1 – 4

5 – 21

22

3: 1 – 26

2. What are the future events which Isaiah describes? (2: 1 – 4)

3. Why does “the house of Jacob” deserve such extreme judgment? (2: 5 – 21)

4. How does Isaiah picture what will happen during this time of oppression and defeat? (Cha

5. What instruction and encouragement is given to the faithful ones? (2:22 and 3:10)

MEDITATION

1. Why is it that throughout history people have chosen to disregard God’s clear message to them? Why did some of the kings of Judah disregard the prophets while others listened?

2. How does someone “walk in the light of the Lord”? (2: 5)

Psalm 119: 105

II Corinthians 4: 4 - 6

John 3: 16 – 21

I John 1: 5 - 7

Romans 13: 11 – 14

I John 2: 9 - 10

3. Do you think the human condition has changed over the centuries? Are pride and arrogance still man’s greatest problem? Why does man still deserve judgment?

Romans 3: 21 – 16

Romans 5: 6 - 11

Romans 6: 23

INVITATION – “The Lord alone” (2: 11 & 17)

There is room for only one God on the throne of your life. What is God inviting you to do with the other competitors for that place? He will not share His glory, but the choice is yours.

What God Has Promised – His Peace

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 3

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“You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in You.”

Isaiah 26: 3

Sitting in traffic court with your citation in hand, knowing that you are guilty, can be a very upsetting and fearful experience. Waiting on those same benches with your defense prepared reduces the anxiety immensely; but when you hear the judge say, “Not guilty; case dismissed”, you feel like starting to sing and dance. So it is with those know that they have put their trust in God and that He has saved them by His grace. They will stand with the redeemed and sing praises to their God – with those from all the nations and all the ages. (Revelation 19) What will you be doing on that day?

PREPARATION – For the people of Israel, Isaiah’s prophecy of a coming Messiah was a promise. For us, his birth is a reality but his reign is yet a promise. For what are you grateful as you read Isaiah 9: 6 – 7 and 11: 1 – 3?

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 25 and 26** – There will be singing and rejoicing “in that day . . .”

Bonus reading:

Isaiah 5 – 8 - includes both scathing indictments upon Judah and encouraging words of hope.

Isaiah 9 – 12 - has been called the “Book of Immanuel” but includes both judgment & redemption

Isaiah 24 - - a day of final judgment for the entire earth

1. What is this poem celebrating? (chapter 25)
2. What is Isaiah picturing in this song of rejoicing? (chapter 26)
3. Find all of the names for God that Isaiah uses. What does this indicate to you?

MEDITATION

1. God’s people, as they trust in Him for their present circumstances, can always find a way to express their praise to the Lord. Isaiah shows us how to do this so well. Can you re-write these paragraphs and make them your own words of praise.
2. How do you integrate the various aspects of God which are pictured by the prophet Isaiah? He is loving, compassionate and faithful, for example, but He is also righteous and His wrath and punishment will come “in that day”. (See also Isaiah 27)

INVITATION

Is it really possible to have perfect and constant peace in this world which is so full of turmoil, pressure, stress, and disappointment? There is a HUGE promise from God in Isaiah 26: 3 – 4. This promise is repeated in John 14: 27 and Philippians 4: 4 – 7. Will you accept His promise? How will this change your conversation and behavior?

What God Has Promised – Answered Prayer

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 4

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Incline Your ear, O LORD, and hear; open Your eyes, O LORD, and see . . . Isaiah 37:17
Because you have prayed to Me . . . Isaiah 37: 21

It's not easy to read through some of the books in the Old Testament. Would you agree? For example, the history of God's chosen people, the nation of Israel, is a tumultuous story of success and judgment, of obedience followed by disobedience, of faith and failure, of arrogance and then humility. Through it all, we learn that God is patiently accomplishing His purposes and that He will always keep His promises to those who continue to trust Him and follow His ways. And tucked in every book is the promise that one day a Redeemer will come and some day God will make a new heaven and a new earth where His children will be with Him forever. Meanwhile, we look at these historical stories and learn from those who "did what was right in the eyes of the LORD" and experienced His blessing and joy while they, too, waited for the coming of their Messiah. He has always listened to the prayers of His beloved children and He is still doing that today.

PREPARATION – It's not easy to wait, to be still, to quiet your busy mind, is it? Take a look at Isaiah 30: 18. He is waiting to be gracious to you. Will you wait before Him and receive His blessing?

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 36 and 37.** Then read II Kings 18 and 19 and/or II Chronicles 29 and 30. For a brief 4 chapters, Isaiah changes from declaring his prophecies to describing his interactions with King Hezekiah. Enter in to these events as you read them and feel with the various people. Isaiah 27 – 35 – More warnings and judgment

1. What did you learn about the character and faith of King Hezekiah?
2. Sennacherib, the great king of Assyria, used very clever tactics to discredit Hezekiah, didn't He? How would you describe them?
3. Hezekiah recognizes that the Assyrians are not only threatening him, but they are ridiculing the Living God. (37: 1 – 4) What difference did this make in his response?
4. What was Isaiah's role in this historical event? Why did he have this respected position?
5. What accusations did the Lord make against Sennacherib?
6. What message of hope did the Lord give to King Hezekiah? Do you think this made an impact on him?

MEDITATION – Take a careful look at the prayer of King Hezekiah – 37: 14 – 20. What can you learn from His prayer? Compare it with his prayer found in 38: 1 – 6. What else can you learn?

INVITATION

Hezekiah was facing an enormously powerful enemy and he knew it. So what did he do about it? What are you facing in your life? Where is the enemy doing his best to take you captive, to keep you in prison? Or is he just taunting you with doubt? Here is your invitation – Matthew 7: 7. Will you RSVP and accept it right now?

What God Has Promised – His Strength

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 5

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**The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom.** Isaiah 20: 28

How do you describe God? How do you explain the Lord? The biggest words that you and I know are so limited, aren't they? But isn't it amazing that He has so graciously provided glimpses into His creativity, majesty and power through the world around us? He has given us insight into His love, His grace, His mercy through His Son, Jesus. And He has provided for us the Holy Spirit, who opens our hearts and minds to the truths about Him that we read in Scripture. We can know Him! And we can experience the reality of His strength and power in our lives every day. That is what He has promised to us. How's your power supply?

PREPARATION – What is your God like? How would you describe Him based on the events in your life this past week? This would be a good time for thanksgiving and for confession.

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 40.** Try to read it in 2 or 3 different translations. Read it out loud and quietly.

1. What is the good news found in verses 1 – 8?
2. What is Isaiah announcing in verses 9 – 11?
3. What can you learn about God's wisdom and power – verses 12 – 17?
4. Who is God compared to idols and to His creation in verses 18 – 25?
5. What are the huge proclamations that are made about God in verses 26 – 31?
6. What is Isaiah announcing in verses 9 – 11?

MEDITATION –

1. Choose 5 or 6 descriptive words or phrases about the greatness of God that are the most important to you from this study? Why did you select them?
2. Is the progression from soaring to running to walking in verse 31 helpful to you? In what way?
3. How does the New Testament embrace this promise that God gave so long ago?
Ephesians 1: 18 – 22
Philippians 4: 13
II Timothy 4: 17 - 18
II Peter 1: 3 - 4

INVITATION – This is not a good time for academic questions or intellectual answers. God is inviting you to respond to Him with your heart, with your passion, with your feelings. Find a quiet place and let Him reveal the truths which are in Isaiah 40 to you in a personal way. What is He asking you to believe, to understand, to grasp? How does He

What God Has Promised – His Sustaining Presence

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 6

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**Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He. I am He who will sustain you.
I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.**

Isaiah 46: 4

Remember the times when the two leaders would begin to choose their team members? The first team captain would pick someone and then the other one would take his/her turn. If it was for some athletic team, like baseball, I knew that it would be a long time before I would hear my name. If it was for a spelling bee, I had a much better chance of being called earlier in the selection process. Sometimes we are chosen because of a particular skill or talent, but there are other times when someone can be selected simply because the leader sees potential or simply wants to be an encouragement. Whether or not we ever discover the reason, those times can be life changing. It is an enormous inspiration when we begin to grasp the truth that God has chosen you and me to be in a relationship with Him.

PREPARATION – Focus your heart and mind on the truth that God has chosen you. Give Him your thanks.

John 15: 15 – 16 and II Thessalonians 2: 13

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 45 & 46.** Try to read it in 2 or 3 different translations. Read it out loud and quietly.

It is amazing that decades before the events Isaiah records that Cyrus, a Persian King, will be used by God to bring judgment on the idolatrous nation of Babylon and deliver the nation of Israel. These prophecies brought comfort and hope to God's chosen nation then and these truths can do the same for you and for me today.

1. Look at what God says about Himself in the past, present and future by listing what he says about Himself. Make a sheet with 3 columns - "I have . . .", "I am . . .", and "I will . . ."

2. What do you learn about God's chosen people (the elect) and their circumstances?

3. Is there any indication that God cares for other nations and peoples of the earth?
What is He going to do for them?

4. There are several references to idols or heathen gods. What do you learn about their power and their future?

5. What are the instructions and warnings that God gives to His people?

MEDITATION –

Not only does God want His people to know Him better, He wants them to understand what He is able and desires to do for them. He hasn't changed. His purposes haven't changed. And His promises are there for you today. What are they?

Matthew 28: 19 – 20

Colossians 1: 10 - 14

John 15: 1 – 11

INVITATION – Listen to God's offer to you – Isaiah 46: 4 – "I will sustain you." He even repeats it again.

Sustain is a big word. Literally it means "to hold up from under". Some synonyms are:

Support

Provide for

Encourage

Comfort

Nourish

Uphold

Affirm

Give strength

What is your response?

What God Has Promised – A Savior

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 7

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**But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities;
The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.
We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;
And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”** Isaiah 53: 5 - 6

People have tried throughout the centuries to predict the future and to announce to the world the events that would be taking place tomorrow, next week or even decades later. How often have they been correct? Yet, Isaiah wrote of a “servant” who would come and “bear the sin of many”. With some measure of detail and total accuracy, he described the reason that he would come and the things that this servant would accomplish. What makes these prophecies so amazing is that they were written 700 years before they actually happened and yet Isaiah makes the reader feel as though it were all in the present. For us who live 2000 years after the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, it is far easier to understand what Isaiah was predicting. Does this give you confidence in the Bible? Knowing this, does it make it easier for you to trust what God still has planned for His people in the future?

PREPARATION – As you quiet your mind and heart and begin to focus on the Savior, read Philippians 2: 5 – 11.
Christ Jesus came to this world to die in your place. Tell Him how you feel about His love for you.

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 52: 13 through 53.** It’s all about Jesus – who He was, what He did, and why He came. Read these verses every day this week. Use a variety of translations.

1. How does Isaiah describe the condition of mankind?
2. What kind of suffering would this “servant” experience?
3. What will be accomplished through Him?

Bonus study of the fulfillment of the prophecy – (from The Nelson Study Bible, page1199)

<u>The Prophecy</u>	<u>The Fulfillment</u>
He will be exalted (52: 13)	Phil.2: 9
He will be disfigured by suffering (52: 14; 53: 2)	Mark 15: 17, 19
He will be widely rejected (53: 1, 3)	John 12: 37 - 38
He will bear our sins and sorrows (53: 4)	Romans 4: 25 and I Peter 2: 24 - 25
He will make a blood atonement (53: 5)	Romans 3: 25
He will be our substitute (53: 6, 8)	II Corinthians 5: 21
He will voluntarily accept our guilt and punishment (53:7)	John 10: 11
He will be buried in a rich man’s tomb (53: 9)	John 19: 38 – 42
He will justify many from their sin (53: 10 – 11)	Romans 5: 15 – 19
He will die with transgressors (53: 12)	Mark 15: 27 – 28 and Luke 22: 37

MEDITATION –

In the place of “our” and other plural pronouns, use the word “my” and “me”.
Celebrate Christmas and Easter today and every day this week.
Talk about Jesus. Sing about Jesus. Write your own version of this chapter in Isaiah!

INVITATION

Where are you on your journey of faith? Jesus is offering to you His forgiveness and His peace?
He is “THE WAY, THE TRUTH, and THE LIFE.” No one comes to God except through Jesus. (John 14: 6)
Is your answer “yes” or “no”? It’s all yours if you will receive Him by faith.

What God Has Promised - Joy

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 8

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**So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth. It shall not return to Me void
But it shall accomplish what I please and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.**

Isaiah 55: 11

Invitations are special. Someone wants you to spend time with them. Somebody is thinking of you. You are on the guest list! Other invitations come because of business contacts or because you have earned a reward of some kind. And then there are the invitations that are sent out of the kindness and generosity of a benevolent person. You don't know them; you didn't do anything to deserve the recognition; but the offer is yours. Sometimes you even feel like it is too good to be true. If this invitation is very special, you may even choose to frame it for posterity or at least put it in a place where you can show it to your friends, but it still remains only the invitation. It is only in accepting the invitation and experiencing the event that the reality can become part of your life.

PREPARATION – There is an open invitation to you from Jesus – “Come unto me . . .” The Savior is ready to walk and talk with you. So – why don't you go to Him now and tell Him about life? Maybe you have some questions that you would like to ask Him or some concerns you want to share.

INFORMATION - Read Isaiah 55. Try to read it in 2 or 3 different translations. Read it out loud and quietly.

The invitations and information in this chapter were initially given to the exiles, God's covenant nation, but in the centuries to follow this message was opened up to all nations and to all people.

1. What is the invitation in 55: 1 – 5? Rewrite it in your own words. What are the promises?

Compare the invitations in Revelation 21: 6 and 22: 17.

2. What is the invitation in 55: 6 -7 Rewrite it in your own words What are the promises?

3. Do you think there is a connection between God's thoughts (vs.8) and His Word? What could the relationship be? What do you learn about His thoughts and His word?

4. It's hard to imagine a nation being freed from bondage and exile and returning to their home land, but that is what happened historically and their joy would have been immense. In your mind what could these verses be picturing for God's children today?

MEDITATION

Here are some invitations from Jesus. How are they similar? How are they different?

Matthew 6: 33

John 4: 13 -14

Matthew 11: 28 – 30

John 16: 24 and 33

INVITATION –

What have you done with these invitations from the Lord?

1. To come . . .
2. To seek . . .
3. To experience His peace and joy . . .

What God Has Promised – Protection and Guidance

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 9

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**“Is this not the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice . . .
To set the oppressed free and to share your food with the hungry . . .
Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear;
Then your righteousness will go before you and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.”**
Isaiah 58: 6 - 8

The old adage is still true, isn't it? Our "actions speak louder than our words". Parents can tell their children over and over that it is very important to learn to read because it will enrich their lives so much, but if they never see the parent pick up a book and read, what is the child going to learn? Employers can talk about how much the employees are valued, but unless there are actions that indicate the reality of this attitude, they are not likely to believe it. So it is in our spiritual life. We can make a big impression with our words, but if our actions do not bear witness to the reality of the Spirit of God transforming our lives and our love for others in need, perhaps it is time to take a serious look at what needs to change.

PREPARATION – Have you felt the presence of the Lord and His guiding hand upon your life in recent days? Why not take some time to tell Him "thank you". Or is God silent right now and you're wondering where He is? Call upon His name and seek Him. He will answer your call.

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 58.** Try to read it in 2 or 3 different translations. Read it out loud and quietly.

1. Why is God accusing His people? What are they doing that is so wrong?
2. What is the definition of "fasting" that you discovered in this chapter?
3. What are the promises given to those whose behavior is consistent with God's heart and desires?
4. Why do you think that the keeping of the Sabbath was so important? How is this described and what will be the result?
5. What can you learn from these New Testament passages about these concerns?
Fasting – Matthew 6: 16 – 18, Matthew 9: 14 – 15, Acts 14: 21 - 23
Giving/Generosity – Matthew 6: 1 – 4, Matthew 25: 31 - 46, I Timothy 5: 3, James 1: 27
Justice – Matthew 12: 15 – 21, Matthew 23: 23
Sabbath – Matt. 12: 1 – 13, Acts 13: 44, Hebrews 4: 9 - 11

MEDITATION – Do you think God is any less serious about these things today? Look at them one by one. How does your life reflect these passions of the LORD? Where are you involved or "sacrificing"?

- Loose the chains of injustice
- Break the cords of the yoke of oppression
- Share your food with the hungry
- Provide the poor wanderer with shelter
- Give clothes to the naked, the needy
- Do not turn away from your own flesh and blood
- Do away with the pointing finger and malicious talk.

INVITATION – God promises light, healing, protection, help, guidance, and joy to those who will live life with His priorities in mind and in action. What are your questions and concerns? How much are you willing to risk to accept this invitation to live His way?

What God Has Promised - Redemption

A study of the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 10

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“You, O LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from Everlasting is Your name.”

Isaiah 63:16b (NKJV)

When is the last time you met with someone so that you could say the words, “I’m sorry” to that person? It’s not an easy thing to do. First of all, you have to admit to yourself that you did or said something that was wrong. Then you have to come to the place that you are willing to admit this to someone else. Finally you must go and apologize. Relief and restoration are not complete, however, until you hear the response that you are waiting to receive. Will the words “I forgive you” ever be spoken? While there are no guarantees in human relationships, that you will have the joy of hearing those words, you can count on the fact that God is always willing to forgive those who come to Him. It’s one of His promises to you and to me.

PREPARATION – As you come before the Lord, is there anything that stands between you? Is there something which you have been unwilling to confess? As He did with His chosen people, God waits for you to come to Him in honesty and repentance. You’ll never regret it.

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 63: 7 - 64.** This is Isaiah’s prayer to the Lord on behalf of the nation. He willingly admits their rebellion and iniquity and he also claims the promises of God which include redemption and restoration.

1. Make a list of the “kindnesses of the LORD” for which Isaiah expresses his gratitude.
2. What does Isaiah remember from history that God did for His chosen people?
3. What is he asking God to do? Why does He have the courage to make these requests?
4. What references are made to the Holy Spirit? What do you learn about His work at that time?
5. How do you think God will answer Isaiah’s questions?

MEDITATION

1. It is difficult for us to face the righteous anger of God and yet it seems to be a reality. How do you explain some of the references to it?

63: 10	64: 7	64:12
64: 5	64: 9	
2. How does the New Testament clarify the bigger meaning of the “redemption” that Isaiah foretold?

Romans 3: 21 – 26	Ephesians 4: 30
Romans 8: 22 – 23	Colossians 1: 13 - 14
Galatians 4: 4 - 5	Hebrews 9: 11 - 28
Ephesians 1: 3 – 8, 13 - 14	Titus 2: 11 - 14

INVITATION – Read Isaiah 63: 8 – 9 several times – what does the phrase “In His love and mercy He redeemed them” mean to you? What do you think God’s invitation is to you today?

What God Has Promised – A Future

A study from the Book of Isaiah

Lesson 11

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“Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth.

The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.”

Isaiah 65: 17 - 18

In recent years, some very helpful books have been written about “heaven”. Some authors have searched the Scriptures to discover all that can be known about the “eternal life of the believer” after this earthly life is over. Other authors have also studied the Bible and then added their imagination to the information in the Bible. But the most inspired human authors have very limited knowledge. It is really in the Word of God itself that you and I can discover small treasures about “what God is preparing for those who love Him.” (I Corinthians 2: 9 – 10) What we do know is that it will all be new and we will be in the presence of our God and Savior. Does this make you want to sing?

PREPARATION – Jesus may come today! If you knew that He really was coming, what would you say to Him right now? Listen - He may have some things that He wants to whisper in your ear. If you’re His child, it’s going to be the most amazing trip you’ll ever take – and you don’t even have to worry about a suitcase because you won’t need to take anything with you!

INFORMATION - **Read Isaiah 65 – 66: 14.** Isaiah prayed on behalf of His nation and his God answered – loud and clear. God describes His relationship with those who have forsaken Him and with those who are His servants. He gives them insight about their future and ours, for we also belong to Him. How does God’s response summarize the major themes in the book of Isaiah?

1. How and why will God avenge or judge His enemies? Who are they? Do they deserve it?
2. How are the servants of God described? Who are they and what are the blessings that are theirs?
3. What information indicates that salvation will be open to others in addition to Israel?
4. Find as many “treasures” as you can which help you picture what God is planning for His chosen ones.

MEDITATION

1. How would you describe a person who has a “humble and contrite spirit”? Why does God value these attitudes so greatly? How is this related to the rest of the verse – Is. 66: 2b
I Peter 5: 5 - 6
James 4: 5 – 10
Ephesians 4: 2
2. It’s been a very long time since God gave these words to Isaiah. It’s been a long time since He gave the same promise to Peter and to John. Do you think the promise is still viable? Why?
II Peter 3: 8 – 13
Revelation 21
Revelation 22: 20

INVITATION and CHALLENGE – A timely word to you and me – Revelation 3: 7 – 13.

Listen intently for God’s promise and instruction that is directly written for you today.

Isaiah's Prophecies in the New Testament

6: 9 – 10	Matt. 13: 14 – 15 Mark 4: 12 Luke 8: 10 John 12: 40 Acts 28: 26 – 27	49: 6 49: 8 49: 18	Acts 13: 47 II Corinthians 6: 2 Romans 14: 11
8: 12	I Peter 4: 14	52: 5	Romans 2: 24
8: 14	Romans 9: 33 I Peter 2: 8	52: 7 52: 11	Romans 10: 1 II Corinthians 6: 17 - 18
8: 17 – 18	Hebrews 2: 13	53: 1	John 12: 38 Romans 10: 16
10: 22 – 23	Romans 9: 28	53: 4	Matthew 8: 17
11: 10	Romans 15: 12	53: 9	I Peter 2: 22
13: 10	Matt. 24: 29 Mark 13: 24 -25	53: 12	Luke 22: 57
22: 13	I Cor. 15: 32	54: 1	Galatians 4: 26 - 27
25: 8	I Cor. 15: 54	54: 13	John 6: 4
25: 11 – 12	I Cor. 14: 21	55: 3	Acts 13: 34
27: 9	Romans 11: 26 – 27	56: 7	Matthew 21: 13 Mark 11: 17 Luke 19: 46
28: 16	Romans 9: 33, 10: 11 I Peter 2: 6	59: 7 – 8	Romans 3: 17
29: 13	Matt. 15: 8 – 9	59: 20 – 21	Romans 11: 26 - 27
29: 14	I Cor. 1: 19	61: 1 – 2	Luke 4: 18 - 19
29: 16	Romans 9: 20	64: 4	I Corinthians 2: 9
34: 4	Matt. 24: 29 Mark 13: 24 – 25	65: 1	Romans 10: 20
40: 3	Matt. 3: 3 Mark 1: 3 Luke 3: 4 – 6	66: 1 – 2	Acts 7: 49 - 50
40: 6 – 8	I Peter 1: 24 – 25	66: 24	Mark 9: 44, 46, 48
40: 13	Romans 11: 34 I Cor. 3: 16		
42: 1 – 4	Matt. 12: 18 – 21		
45: 9	Romans 9: 20		
45: 23	Romans 14: 11		
46: 3	John 1: 23		

Summary-

Quotations from 44 verses in Isaiah
Quotations found in 58 NT verses

What God Has Promised – Bibliography

A study from the book of Isaiah

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Bible Versions

Amplified Old Testament

English Standard Version

New International

New King James

New Living Translation

The Message