

ISAIAH

Key Chapters of the Prophet

Problem and Solution Lesson 1

Introduction and Historical Background

			Isaiah's Ministry 739-698 BC	Return to Jerusalem 538 BC
Abraham 2000 BC	Moses 1500 BC	King David 1000 BC	Fall of Jerusalem 586 BC	



Read **Isaiah 1:1**.

Isaiah's name means...

Isaiah was the son of Amoz. Jewish tradition holds that Amoz was the brother of King Amaziah, which would make Isaiah the cousin of King Uzziah. **2 Chronicles 32:32** tells us that Isaiah contributed to the biography of King Hezekiah. Tradition also says that Isaiah was sawn in half by evil King Manasseh (Hebrews 11:37 is referring to).

What do we know about the kings mentioned in this first verse?

Basic Outlines

- I. Chapters 1-39: Woes and Judgement
- II. Chapters 40-66: Comfort and Consolation

OR

- I. Chapters 1-39 (Destruction of the North, threat of Assyria)
- II. Chapters 40-55 (Destruction and Exile)
- III. Chapters 56-66 (Return from exile)

Can one man deliver prophecies that only make sense against a backdrop of 3 different historical situations, two of which won't arise until he's long dead?

Isaiah 1 – “*Why do you persist in rebellion?*” (1:5)

Read **Isaiah 1:2-18**.

How does the Lord describe the state of the nation in verses 2-9.

The Lord assesses the worship of his people in verses 10-15. What was wrong with it?

If God spoke to you, called out your sin in detail, and then said, “Let’s settle this...”

What might naturally be your first reaction?

How does the Lord settle the matter (verse 18)?

Isaiah 5 – “*The garden of his delight*” (5:7)

Read **Isaiah 5:1-7**. What does the picture of the vineyard illustrate?

Note the times when Jesus used the imagery of a vineyard.

Isaiah 6 – “*Here am I, send me!*” (6:8)

Read **Isaiah 6:1-13**.

Describe what Isaiah saw and heard.

Explain Isaiah’s reaction.

What is the Lord’s solution to the fear and guilt of sin?

With what messages does the Lord send Isaiah? (verses 9:-13)

Further Study

Read Isaiah 1-6. Since this study covers select chapters of Isaiah, each lesson will suggest chapters to read at home. By the end of the course, you will have read all of Isaiah. You’ll have time at the beginning of each class to share insights from your personal reading or ask questions.