

Isaiah: The Prophet of Redemption

Isaiah 6:1-8

Isaiah 6:1-4

- “In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. 2 Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one cried to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory! 4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.”

Isaiah 6:5-8

- “So I said: Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts. 6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. 7 And he touched my mouth with it, and said: Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged. 8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us? Then I said, Here am I! Send me.”

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- Isaiah - “Yah (Jehovah) is salvation” was a Jewish prophet who wrote the Book of Isaiah in two parts between 740 BC and 686 BC
- The book divides into two parts: 1-39 and 40-66; it includes prophetic declarations of Cyrus the Great to restore Judah from exile, the ends of evil nations, and the coming kingdom of God and the Messiah.
- Isaiah was written as several prophecies and sermons compiled by post exile prophets. He is considered by Jews and Christians alike as chief among the writing prophets and one of the latter major prophets.

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- According to the Rabbinic literature, Isaiah was a descendant of the royal house of Judah and Tamar (Sotah 10b). He was the son of Amoz, who was the brother of King Amaziah of Judah, making Isaiah nephew to the king. (Talmud Tractate Megillah 15a).
- He was married to a prophetess (Isa. 8:3) who bore him two sons, one of whom was given the longest name recorded in the Bible, Mahershalahashbaz, meaning "Spoil quickly, plunder speedily."
- His ministry spanned 64 years and began near the end of the reign of Azariah and continued through Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah, and Manasseh, grandson of Hezekiah, who killed him with a wooden saw.

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- **Historical Setting:**
- **Isa. 36:1-22**
- **Isa. 37:8, 14, 21-23**
- **2Kings 19 - “The judgment of God fell on the Assyrian army and wiped out 185,000 of its men. Like Xerxes in Greece, Sennacherib never recovered from the shock of the disaster in Judah. He made no more expeditions against either the Southern Palestine or Egypt.” (Sayce, Archibald Henry. Ancient Empires of the East. Macmillan, 1884, p. 134.)**

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- Historian Gregory of Nyssa (335-395 AD), said that Isaiah “knew more perfectly than all other prophets the mystery of the Gospel”
- Jerome (342-420 AD) writes: “He was more of an Evangelist than a Prophet, because he described all of the Mysteries of the Church of Christ so vividly that you would assume he was not prophesying about the future, but rather was composing a history of past events.”
- Even Muslim scholars recognize him as a prophet.

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- John said it first
 - John 12:41 - “These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.”
 - New Testament preachers and writers quoted Isaiah 85 times

Isaiah Was A Prophet's Prophet

- His prophecies are quoted more than any other prophet
- His prophecies are used and interpreted by New Testament prophets
- His book has been called a microcosm of the whole Bible.
 - That is actually an accident of chapter and verse divisions; the first 39 chapters address Old Testament nations; the last 27 chapters address New Testament matters, making a total of 66 chapters

Isaiah Was A Prophet's Prophet

- He was the official court scribe and prophet who recorded the works of the kings on a daily basis
 - 2Chron. 26:22 - “Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, from first to last, the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz wrote.”
 - 2Chron. 32:32 - “Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his goodness, indeed they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, and in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.”

Isaiah Was A Prophet's Prophet

- Isa. 44:28 and 45:1 names Cyrus as the king who would release Judah from captivity more than 70 years before he was born
- There are 129 distinct Messianic prophecies; Isaiah has 22. Every one of them came to pass. The odds of that happening by chance are astronomical. Copies of Isaiah predate the birth of Jesus by 200 years.

Prophecies About Jesus

- (22 Distinct Prophecies)
- He will be born of a virgin - 7:14
- He will bring joy to Israel - 9:2
- He will govern the world - 9:6
- He will reign on David's throne - 9:7
- He will be a descendant of Jesse and thus in the Davidic line - 49:1
- He will be empowered by the Holy Spirit - 11:2, 42:1
- He will restore the nations - 11:10

Prophecies About Jesus

- He will judge in righteousness, justice, and faithfulness - 11:3-5, 42:1, 4
- He will be gentle toward the weak - 42:3
- He will make a New Covenant with Israel - 42:6, 49:8-9
- He will be a light to the Gentiles - 42:6, 49:6
- He will be called before His birth to be God's Servant - 49:1
- He will manifest God's glory - 49:3
- He will restore Israel spiritually to God and temporarily, physically the land - 49:5, 8

Prophecies About Jesus

- He will be worshiped by Gentiles - 49:7, 52:15
- He will be rejected by Israel - 49:7, 53:1, 3
- He will be obedient to the LORD in His mission - 50:6, 53:7-8
- He will voluntarily submit to suffering - 50:6, 53:7-8
- He will be exalted - 52:13; 53:12
- He will take on Himself the sins of the world - 53:4-6, 10-12
- He will triumph over death - 53:10
- He will comfort Israel and bring vengeance on the wicked - 61:1-3

Isaiah Is The Prophet Of Redemption

- Isa. 64:4-8 - “For since the beginning of the world Men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him. 5 You meet him who rejoices and does righteousness, Who remembers You in Your ways. You are indeed angry, for we have sinned-In these ways we continue; And we need to be saved. 6 But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away. 7 And there is no one who calls on Your name, Who stirs himself up to take hold of You; For You have hidden Your face from us, And have consumed us because of our iniquities. 8 But now, O LORD, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; And all we are the work of Your hand.”

Isaiah Is The Prophet Of Redemption

- Isa. 65:17-18 - “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. 18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; For behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing, And her people a joy.”
- Isa. 62:1-3 - “For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns. 2 The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, Which the mouth of the LORD will name. 3 You shall also be a crown of glory In the hand of the LORD, And a royal diadem In the hand of your God.”