



A STUDY IN *The book of Isaiah*

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With my whole heart have I sought thee; O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee. Ps.119:10,11

Isaiah

(The Messianic Prophet)

The book of Isaiah may be compared to the Bible. The Bible has (66) books; Isaiah has (66) chapters. The Old Testament has (39) books and covers the history and sin of Israel; as does chapters 1-39 of Isaiah. The New Testament has (27) books; the last section of Isaiah has (27) chapters. The NT describes the person and ministry of Christ, and begins with the ministry of John the Baptist; Isaiah 40 begins with the prediction John the Baptists' ministry. The NT ends with the new heaven and the new earth. Isaiah ends his book by describing the same things. (*Is. 66:22 Rev. 21:1-3*) Isaiah prophesied during the reigns of (5) kings of Judah (*Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah & Manasseh*), and he is called the *Messianic Prophet*; only the Psalms have more material about Christ than Isaiah. Isaiah was married and had (2) sons (*Shear-jash-ub & Ma-her-shalal-hash-baz Is. 7:3, 8:3*); there is "tradition" that Isaiah or his father Amoz, was the brother of Amaziah, a king of Judah, making Isaiah cousin to those kings previously named. There are other books written by Isaiah that have **not** been preserved, such as: The life of Uzziah (*2 Chronicles 26:22*) & A book of the kings of Israel and Judah (*2 Chronicles 32:32*); he is also quoted in the New Testament more than any other OT prophet. These passages quote his words in reference to:

- a.** the ministry of John the Baptist (*Mt. 3:3; Lk. 3:4; Jn. 1:23*) **b.** the ministry of Christ to the Gentiles (*Mt. 4:14-15; 12:17-18*) **c.** the future rule of Christ over the Gentiles (*Rom. 15:12*) **d.** the healing ministry of Christ (*Mt. 8:17*) **e.** the blindness of Israel (*Mt. 13:14; Acts 28:25-27*) **f.** the hypocrisy of Israel (*Mt. 15:7*) **g.** the disobedience of Israel (*Rom. 10:16, 20*) **h.** the saved remnant of Israel (*Rom. 9:27,29*) **i.** the sufferings of Christ (*Acts 8:28, 30*) **j.** the anointing of Christ (*Lk. 4:17*)

Isaiah (*Yeshayahu* Heb.), whose name means "the Lord saves" or "salvation of YAHWEH" was a younger contemporary of both Amos and Hosea, born around 760 B.C.. As previously stated, Isaiah was married, and his wife is called "the prophetess" (*8:3*); she bore him two sons; their names are object lessons "Shear-jashub" (*7:3*) literally means "a remnant will return," meaning that out of God's judgment a remnant would be saved, and "Maher-shalal-hash-baz (*8:3*), literally "speed the spoil, hasten the prey," signifying the removal of Syria and Israel (*yes Israel!*) as enemies of Judah by the Assyrians (*8:4*). His call came in the year king Uzziah died 740 b.c. (*6:1*). Isaiah records the death of Sennacherib which is an indicator that he outlived king Hezekiah; this is confirmed by *2 Chron. 32:32* where it states that Isaiah wrote the history of Hezekiah. According to Hebrew tradition, Isaiah suffered martyrdom by being sawn in-two during the reign of wicked king Manasseh, the successor of Hezekiah.

General Outline

- 1. Chs. 1-35** Israel, God's Faithless Servant (*and her various enemies*)
A. Her sins listed (chs. 1,3,5). B. Her future predicted (chs. 2,4,9,11,12, 25-35).
C. Isaiah's great vision (ch. 6). D. Her wicked king's unbelief (ch. 7).
E. Her enemies (*Babylon, Philistia, Moab, Damascus, Ethiopia, Egypt, Edom (Idumea), Arabia, Tyre* (chs. 13-23) & lastly, *The entire world* (chs. 24-25)

Outline continued

II. Chs. 36-39 Hezekiah, God's Frightened king

- A. Hezekiah and the king of Assyria (chs. 36-37)
- B. Hezekiah and the king of Heaven (ch. 38)
- C. Hezekiah and the king of Babylon (ch. 39)

III. Chs. 40-66 Christ, God's Faithful Servant

- A. The deliverance—the comfort of Jehovah (chs.40-48)
 - 1. God and the idols (chs. 40-46)
 - 2. God and the nations (chs. 47-48)
- B. The Deliverer—the salvation of Jehovah (chs. 49-57)
- C. The delivered—the glory of Jehovah