

## OT-OV

### Lesson 108

1. Last week I completed our overview of the Song of Solomon and we had just begun a study of the book of Isaiah.

2. I want to review some of that learned and then pick up with new material on page three.

### 3. Introduction

3.1 The Book of Isaiah was written by Isaiah in about 700 B.C. from Judah. The grandest of all the Hebrew prophets, Isaiah speaks to the southern Kingdom and its immediate needs while prophesying of the sufferings of Christ and His ultimate victory at the 2nd Advent including specifics concerning His reign during the Millennium.

3.2 The Hebrew name of Isaiah is Yesha'-yahu, meaning "Yehovah is the source of salvation." It is fitting that his underlying message to God's covenant nation is that salvation will come to them on the basis of divine grace and power and not by their own strength and religious works.

3.3 The fact that Isaiah is called "the son of Amoz" 13 times in the OT may mean that his father was a man of prominence. Isaiah apparently made his home in Jerusalem. Isa 7:3

3.4 His wife was known as a prophetess. (Isa 8:1).

3.5 The names of Isaiah's children were significant, constant reminders to kings and their subjects of the prophet's message and the importance of listening to him. Wycliffe writes:

"God told Isaiah before he had even married his fiancée that he would have a man-child by her, and He bade him inscribe the child's name on a tablet as a matter of public record before two witnesses of reputation. Maher-shalal-hash-baz, meaning "hasten to the booty, rush to the spoil," was to betoken the successful Assyrian assault upon Damascus and Samaria. This assault would crush both those kingdoms before the infant boy would be old enough to utter, "Mummy" or "Daddy," i.e., within three years. (This prophecy was fulfilled in the capture of Damascus and the spoliation (sic) of Samaria in 732 by Tiglathpileser (sic) III). The name of his older son means "a remnant shall return," a promise to the godly in the kingdom of Judah; the name of the younger son, can also be translated "swift is the booty, speedy is the prey."

3.6 It is believed that Isaiah ministered by word and pen for 60 years or more, from c. 740 to 680 B.C. His call to the prophetic ministry of warning and rebuke came in the year of King Uzziah's death (c. 739 B.C.).

3.7 Whether he had preached before that event is not certain. He states in the opening verse that he received revelations from God during the reigns of Uzziah (c. 767-740 B.C.), Jotham (c. 740-732 B.C.), Ahaz (c. 732-716 B.C.), and Hezekiah (c. 716-687 B.C.).

3.8 Yet he must have lived longer to be able to record the death of Sennacherib in c. 681 B.C. and to know the name of the succeeding Assyrian monarch, Esarhaddo. Thus Isaiah lived on into the reign of Manasseh (c. 687-642 B.C.). Isa 37:38.

3.9 Tradition holds that Isaiah was sawn in half at the order of Manasseh, if credible it occurred early in the reign of Manasseh. Supposedly because Isaiah rebuked the King for his vices and idolatry he (Isaiah) was sawed asunder and if this is true Hebrews 11:37 applies to him.

4. Isaiah is by general consent the greatest of all Hebrew writers. His words indicate that he was a man of refinement and culture, a truly poetic soul, a lover and a profound observer of creation and of human nature.

5. He was a statesman who looked upon the world as the scene of God's working with fiery indignation because of its wickedness, and yet ever with a note of hope and comfort for the repentant and God-fearing remnant.

6. So fully does he describe the person and offices of the coming Messiah, that from the time of Jerome he has been known as the "evangelist" of the Old Testament.

7. His reputation greatly increased after the fulfillment of many of his prophecies by the Babylonian exile, the victories of Cyrus, and the deliverance of a remnant from captivity.

8. According to Josephus, Cyrus was induced to set the Jews at liberty by the prophecies of Isaiah concerning himself (Jos Ant. xi. 1.2). Isa 44:28 and 45:1

9. Now let's take a look at The Book of Isaiah with emphasis on its many prophecies, many of which were fulfilled by Christ in His First Advent and many must await His Second Advent for fulfillment.

## The Book of Isaiah

1. The Book of Isaiah is regarded as the greatest of the prophetic books. Isaiah prophesied in the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah, and Manasseh.

2. Judah and Israel were sinful nations. Although they were God's people, they were apostate and richly deserved chastisement.

Isa 1:2 Hear, O heavens! Listen, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: "I reared children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against me.

Isa 1:3 The ox knows his master, the donkey his owner's manger, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand."

Isa 1:4 Ah, sinful nation, a people loaded with guilt, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! They have forsaken the LORD; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him.

Isa 1:5 Why should you be beaten anymore? Why do you persist in rebellion? Your whole head is injured, your whole heart afflicted.

Isa 1:6 From the sole of your foot to the top of your head there is no soundness-- only wounds and welts and open sores, not cleansed or bandaged or soothed with oil.

3. During Isaiah's lifetime several powerful enemies at one time or another were bent on Judah's destruction: the northern kingdom of Israel, ruled by Pekah; Syria, whose king was Rezin; and Assyria, under such warlike kings as Tiglath-pileser III, Sargon II, and Sennacherib. In addition, other neighbors such as the Philistines, the Moabites, and the Edomites harassed the tiny kingdom from time to time.

4. Egypt was only a "broken reed" and no help to Israel against the Assyrians; Babylon, with whom Hezekiah made an alliance, also proved of no value against Judah's many enemies.

5. The Book of Isaiah gives only scant information about Isaiah's literary activity.

6. The divine exhortation to seek and read from the book of the Lord (Isa 34:16) implies that the entire prophecy regarding Edom has been recorded so that in the day of its fulfillment the reader may check every detail with the Scripture.

Isa 34:16 Look in the scroll of the LORD and read: None of these will be missing, not one will lack her mate. For it is his mouth that has given the order, and his Spirit will gather them together.

7. Isaiah is known to have been a court historian and personal prophet for Kings Uzziah and Hezekiah (2Ch 26:22; 32:32). During most of his tenure he was Israel's national prophet.

2Ch 26:22 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, first and last, did Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, write.

2Ch 32:32 Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his goodness, behold, 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.

8. The unity of the Book of Isaiah has been upheld by solid scholarship and numerous New Testament citations though it has been common for critics to speak of a "second Isaiah" who allegedly wrote in the period immediately before the end of the Babylonian Captivity.

8.1 Like many prophetic books of the Bible the primary justification for alleging the book was written by more than one person is the accuracy of what Isaiah predicted. With so many prophecies seen fulfilled the doubting Thomas' panicked claiming there must have been two writers - God could not be that good at predicting. Jews even today speak of two books of Isaiah.

8.2 The book does have two important themes. The first thirty-nine chapters deal generally with God's judgment on sin, and chapters 40-66 emphasize God's comfort and restoration.

9. Isaiah dealt extensively with the sins of the people in his generation predicting God's judgment on both the northern and southern kingdoms. In his lifetime he saw the Assyrian captivity of the ten tribes and later, after his death, Judah was defeated by Babylon.

10. His prophetic vision, however, went far beyond his time to the ultimate judgment of God and the ultimate establishment of righteousness on earth.

11. Given the reputation of the Book of Isaiah as the greatest of all prophetic books our overview will be well served if we concentrate on prophecy; for indeed this was Isaiah's major claim to "fame."

12. The future Messianic Kingdom

Isa 2:2 In the last days the mountain of the LORD'S temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

Isa 2:3 Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Isa 2:4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

Isa 2:5 Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

13. Judah's humbling in the Day of the Lord

Isa 2:11 The eyes of the arrogant man will be humbled and the pride of men brought low; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.

#### 14. The coming judgment of Judah and Jerusalem

Isa 3:1 See now, the Lord, the LORD Almighty, is about to take from Jerusalem and Judah both supply and support: all supplies of food and all supplies of water ...

Isa 3:8 Jerusalem staggers, Judah is falling; their words and deeds are against the LORD, defying his glorious presence.

Isa 3:9 The look on their faces testifies against them; they parade their sin like Sodom; they do not hide it. Woe to them! They have brought disaster upon themselves ...

Isa 3:25 Your men will fall by the sword, your warriors in battle.

Isa 3:26 The gates of Zion will lament and mourn; destitute, she will sit on the ground.

Isa 4:1 In that day seven women will take hold of one man and say, "We will eat our own food and provide our own clothes; only let us be called by your name. Take away our disgrace!"

#### 15. The glory of the coming kingdom

Isa 4:2 In that day the Branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land will be the pride and glory of the survivors in Israel.

Isa 4:3 Those who are left in Zion, who remain in Jerusalem, will be called holy, all who are recorded among the living in Jerusalem.

Isa 4:4 The Lord will wash away the filth of the women of Zion; he will cleanse the bloodstains from Jerusalem by a spirit of judgment and a spirit of fire.

Isa 4:5 Then the LORD will create over all of Mount Zion and over those who assemble there a cloud of smoke by day and a glow of flaming fire by night; over all the glory will be a canopy.

Isa 4:6 It will be a shelter and shade from the heat of the day, and a refuge and hiding place from the storm and rain.

#### 16. Israel as God's vineyard

Isa 5:1 I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

Isa 5:2 He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit.

Isa 5:3 "Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

Isa 5:4 What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad?

Isa 5:5 Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled.

Isa 5:6 I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it."

Isa 5:7 The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are the garden of his delight. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

Isa 5:8 Woe to you who add house to house and join field to field till no space is left and you live alone in the land.

Isa 5:9 The LORD Almighty has declared in my hearing: "Surely the great houses will become desolate, the fine mansions left without occupants."

## 17. Isaiah's Commission

Isa 6:6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar.

Isa 6:7 With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."

Isa 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

Isa 6:9 He said, "Go and tell this people: "'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.'

Isa 6:10 Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."

Isa 6:11 Then I said, "For how long, O Lord?" And he answered: "Until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged,

Isa 6:12 until the LORD has sent everyone far away and the land is utterly forsaken."

## 18. Summary of the Messianic Prophecies

### 18.1 The reign of Christ in the Kingdom

Isa 2:3 Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Isa 2:4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

Isa 2:5 Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

### 18.2 The virgin birth

Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

### 18.3 The joyful reign of Christ

Isa 9:2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

Isa 9:3 You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.

Isa 9:4 For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

Isa 9:5 Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

Isa 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isa 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

#### 18.4 The rule of Christ over the world

Isa 13:11 I will punish the world for its evil, the wicked for their sins. I will put an end to the arrogance of the haughty and will humble the pride of the ruthless.

Isa 14:5 The LORD has broken the rod of the wicked, the scepter of the rulers,

Isa 14:6 which in anger struck down peoples with unceasing blows, and in fury subdued nations with relentless aggression.

Isa 14:7 All the lands are at rest and at peace; they break into singing.

Isa 14:8 Even the pine trees and the cedars of Lebanon exult over you and say, "Now that you have been laid low, no woodsman comes to cut us down."

Isa 14:9 The grave below is all astir to meet you at your coming; it rouses the spirits of the departed to greet you-- all those who were leaders in the world; it makes them rise from their thrones-- all those who were kings over the nations.

#### 18.5 Christ as a descendant of Jesse and David

Isa 11:1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit ...

Isa 11:10 In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.

Isa 16:5 In love a throne will be established; in faithfulness a man will sit on it-- one from the house of David-- one who in judging seeks justice and speeds the cause of righteousness.

#### 18.6 Christ to be filled with the Spirit

Isa 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--

Isa 42:1 "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations.

#### 18.7 Christ to judge with righteousness and justice

Isa 11:3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;

Isa 11:4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

Isa 11:5 Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

Isa 42:1 "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations.

Isa 42:2 He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets.

Isa 42:3 A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;

Isa 42:4 he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his law the islands will put their hope."

#### 18.8 Christ to make possible the unconditional covenants

Isa 42:6 "I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles,

Isa 49:8 This is what the LORD says: "In the time of my favor I will answer you, and in the day of salvation I will help you; I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people, to restore the land and to reassign its desolate inheritances,

Isa 49:9 to say to the captives, 'Come out,' and to those in darkness, 'Be free!' "They will feed beside the roads and find pasture on every barren hill.

Isa 49:10 They will neither hunger nor thirst, nor will the desert heat or the sun beat upon them. He who has compassion on them will guide them and lead them beside springs of water.

Isa 49:11 I will turn all my mountains into roads, and my highways will be raised up.

#### 18.9 Christ to be a light to the Gentiles and to be worshipped by them

Isa 49:6 he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

Isa 49:7 This is what the LORD says-- the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel-- to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: "Kings will see you and rise up, princes will see and bow down, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Isa 52:15 so will he sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.

#### 18.10 Christ to be rejected

Isa 53:1 Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

Isa 53:2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

Isa 53:3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

#### 18.11 Christ to be obedient to God

Isa 50:6 I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting.

Isa 53:7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

Isa 53:8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken.

#### 18.12 Christ to be exalted

Isa 52:13 See, my servant will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.

Isa 53:12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

#### 18.13 Christ to restore Israel and judge the wicked

Isa 61:1 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,  
Isa 61:2 to proclaim the year of the LORD'S favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,  
Isa 61:3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion-- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

#### 18.14 Christ would live in the land of Zebulun and Naphtali

Isa 9:1 Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan--  
Isa 9:2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.  
Isa 9:3 You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.  
Isa 9:4 For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.  
Isa 9:5 Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.  
Isa 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Isa 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

End Lesson