Isaiah - Yahweh Is Salvation

Introduction

Isaiah - man
- son of Amoz (Amos) = strength
- 2 sons - “a remnant shall return”, “hastening to the spoil”
- Prophesied during Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah
- Strong man, leader - he went quickly and cheerfully to do God’s bidding
- Political and spiritual leader
- Directly quoted in the NT over 65 times and Isaiah’s name is mentioned over 20
- Versatility of expression, imagery, richness of vocabulary
- According to tradition - suffered a martyr’s death - cut in two with a wooden saw (He 11:37) - under the King Manasseh

Sections of Isaiah
- Judgment of God (1-35) - holiness, righteousness, justice, God’s Government - a throne (6:6)
- Historical Account (36-39)
- Comfort of God - Salvation (40-66) - grace, glory, compassion - God’s Grace - a lamb (53:7)

Rev 7:17 - Lamb in the midst of the throne

Chapter 1

1-4
- Israel was to be God’s channel of blessings to the world (2)
- They revolted against God (3)
- Animals have more reasoning than you do (3)
- Sinful nation contrasted to a Holy God (4)

5-6
- you will be stricken again if you keep up this rebellion (5)
- There is nothing sound about you (6)

7-9
- city is desolate, strangers devour the fields (7)

10-15
- I have no desire of your sacrifices - I hate your new moon festivals (hypocritical religion)
- I will hide My eyes and not listen to your prayers because your hands are covered in blood

16-17
- remove their evil deeds
- Learn to do good, seek justice

18-20
- consent and obey - you get the best of the land
- Refuse and rebel - devoured by the sword

21-23
- righteousness was in you - now you are just dross (filth)
- Rebels, thieves, chasing rewards, looking for bribes

24-26
- I will turn My hand against you - I will turn up the fire and use lye
- Then I will restore you to a city of righteousness

27-31 - the repentant ones will be redeemed but the others will be burned up

Isaiah - Yahweh Is Salvation

Chapter 2-5

2:1-4 - millennial kingdom
- Messiah will be on the throne
- Peaceful conditions - Prince of Peace (9:6)

A rebuke against Israel (2:5-4:1)
2:5-11
- making bargains with foreigners
- Filled with horses and chariots (Ps 20:7)
- Worshipping idols
- There will come a day when the Lord will be exalted

2:12-22 - a day of reckoning is coming
- proud will be abased
- Men will hide in terror (Rev 6:15-17)

Chapter 3
1-12 - God will remove their leaders
13-15 - God will enter into judgment against His people
16-26 - the women are denounced - cultivate beauty for beauty's sake (I Tim 2:9-10; I Pet 3:3-4) - representation of the moral decay of Judah

Chapter 4
1- God will punish the women trying to attack the men by taking the men away - through slaughter of war
2-6 - THERE WILL BE A REMNANT

Chapter 5 - parable of the Vineyard - God is the vinedresser - Vine is Judah - produce fruit
- what more could He have done for the vineyard? (1-7)
- It will be destroyed - it produced bad grapes
- Woe to their wickedness (8-25) - lack of knowledge (13), those who call evil good and good evil (20), despised the word of God (24)
- God will call in a distant land to bring judgment on His people

Chapter 6

1-3
- year of king Uzziah's death (1)
- Sees the Lord sitting on the throne (Rev 4:1-11)
- Lofty and exalt, high and lifted up - Most Holy God
- Multiple seraphim calling out to one another - Holy, Holy, Holy
- 6 wings
- Declaring God's holiness - acknowledge by the earth of who God is (Ro 1:20, 23)

4-7
- Voice came from the temple filled with smoke (Ex 19:16-20; Rev 15:8)
- Isaiah's response - I have unclean lips (heart)
- Burning coal against his lips purified and took away his sin
- God's holiness is a reminder of man's lowliness
- Job 42:6 - he repents in dust and ashes
- Lk 5:8 - Peter said go away from me for I am sinful man

8-10
- God asks who shall I send, who will go (8)
- Isaiah's response - send me (9)
- Seeing God's glory - caused him to offer himself to full time service
- Message - insensitive, dull, dim - they need to return and be healed

11-13
- he was shown the hard, rough road before him
- The land will be destroyed but there will remain a stump - the holy seed - a remnant

Isaiah - Yahweh Is Salvation

Chapter 7-12	Chapter 13-14 - Babylon/Assyria/Philistia
Message to Ahaz Chapter 7 - Aram plotted with Ephraim (1-4) - God sends Isaiah to Ahaz (5-9) - A virgin shall bear a son (10-16) - God will use Assyria - razor to humiliate His people (17-20) Chapter 8 - flood waters are coming to Israel (and Judah) (1-8) - Many will fall or be snared (9-15) - I will trust in the LORD! (16-18) - They will curse their gods (19-22) Chapter 9 - A child will be born - Jesus (1-6) - His government will increase forever (7) - He will turn darkness and gloom into light (1-7) - His anger not turned away but hand is stretched out (8-12) - God desires people to turn to Him (13-21) Chapter 10 - woe to those who rob the poor of justice (1-4) - Woe to Assyria whose purpose is to destroy (5-11) - Remnant of Israel will return to the LORD (20-27) Chapter 11 - Righteous Branch that is coming (1-5) - Millennial kingdom - lion and lamb will lay together (6-9) - LORD will gather His people (10-16) Chapter 12 - IN THAT DAY - they will praise the LORD - His anger will be turned away - God is our salvation	Babylon - beginning of man's rebellion against God - man's attempt to get God out of their lives - man wants to become his own God - epitome of pride - rule the world without God - predicts the destruction of Babylon - Is 13-14; Jer 50-51; Rev 17-18 - God is calling His instruments of indignation (13:1-5) - The <u>day of the Lord</u> (13:6-16) - Destruction from God (6) - Days of cruelty and burning anger (9) - The world will be darkened and God will put an end to the arrogance and haughtiness (10-11) - Babylon will fall to the Medes (17-22) The taunt against Babylon (14:1-23) - in that day - Israel will have peace and will look on Babylon with contempt (1-4) - Power that controls nations (5-7) - The nations will rejoice when it is brought low and made just like them (8-11) - Satan who is behind the mindset - the power - of Babylon - who makes himself like God - but God will throw him down (12-23) Assyria - taken Israel captive - cruelty (14:24-28) - brought down - No one can stay the hand of the Lord Philistia - Philistines (29-32) - Not to rejoice because of Israel's downfall

Isaiah - Yahweh Is Salvation

Chapters 15-16 - Moab

Judgment (15:1-4)
- Moab will be devastated and ruined (16:7-8)
- Southeast of the Dead Sea - modern day Jordan
- Severe pride and arrogance (16:6)
- Key cities wailing, in ruins, crops were ruined, they were fleeing as refugees

Timeline
- prophecy - collapse will come in a 3-year window (16:13-14)
- Tied to the Assyrians military campaigns

Isaiah's Compassion (15:5-9; 16:1-4, 9-12)
- despite the fact that they are enemies, hostile toward Judah, and wrapped up in idolatry - Isaiah mourns for them
- Kinship with Lot
- Lineage of Ruth - Moabitess - great grandmother of King David
- Judah is urged to harbor the refugees (16:1-4)

Messianic Hope
- promise of a future King from David's tent (Jesus) - will judge with righteousness and seek justice (16:5)
- The remnant will be small (16:14)

Chapter 17 - Damascus/Ephraim

Damascus - capital of Syria/Aram
Ephraim - Israel - joined forces with Aram against Judah (Ahaz) and the Assyrian Empire

Destruction by Assyria
- Damascus will be a ruin and abandoned (1-2)
- Israel's fortified city will vanish (3)
- Damascus fell to Assyria in 732 BC, Samaria 722 BC

Agricultural Metaphors of scarcity of food (4-6)
- strong bodies wasting away
- Harvest all the grain
- Beating the olive tree - there will be nothing left

Turning Point (7-9)
- God pruned them for a redemptive purpose
- In "that day" man will look to his Maker and his eyes will turn to the Holy One of Israel

Root Cause (10-11)
- it happens because Israel forgot God - the God of their salvation and their refuge
- Trusted in foreign alliances and planted strange vines (idolatry)

Sudden End (12-14)
- roaring of many nations
- God will rebuke them and scatter them like chaff

Isaiah - Yahweh Is Salvation

Chapter 18 - Ethiopia	Chapters 19-20 - Egypt
Cush (Ethiopia) - land of whirring wings (sails of ships) (1) - depended on sailing especially the Nile and beyond - Dominant in Africa because of its relationship with Egypt Sending Messangers (2-3) - sent them in light reed vessels - Rally support for crisis in the Med Sea God's Response (4-6) - you don't need to look to others for help - Don't panic and seek foreigners - God is quietly observing - He is taking care of you - God will frustrate the arrogant plans of empires like Assyria Future Worship at Mt Zion (7) - time will come "that day" when Cush will bring gifts to the Lord of Hosts at Mt Zion - Looking passed immediate threats to recognize God is in control	