

Isaiah

LOOKING FORWARD TO JESUS

Foretelling Christ's birth:

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.

Isaiah 7:14

Foretelling Christ as Savior:

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:4-6

Isaiah lives in Jerusalem during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah and Manasseh. He repeatedly warns Judah what will happen if the people do not turn back to God, but he knows from the beginning that his messages from God will generally go unheeded. His one great triumph is that, when the Assyrian army is hammering at the gates of Jerusalem (circa 701 B.C.), King Hezekiah takes Isaiah's advice and the city is saved (chapters 36 – 37).

Major themes:

- God is the ruler of all history
- For both the community and the individual, to get right with God is what matters most
- God's judgment is inevitable, yet God has a bright future in store for his people upon the great coming of the 'king' or 'servant of the Lord' (Christ)

Outline:

- *Part 1: Chapters 1 – 39*
Warnings and promises to Judah and the nations
- *Part 2: Chapters 40 – 55*
Comfort and encouragement for the exiles
- *Part 3: Chapters 56 – 66*
After the exile; future glory

Old Testament Timeline

BC	2000-1700	1700	1250	1210	1030
Creation/Fall Adam & Eve Noah	Patriarchs Abraham Isaac Jacob Joseph	Israel in Egypt	The Exodus Moses The Law	Promised Land Joshua Deborah Gideon Sampson	United Kingdom Samuel Saul David Solomon

PEOPLE

Abraham founder of the Jewish nation; ancestor of Christ **Ahaz** idol worshipping king of Judah who sacrificed his son by fire and paid tribute to Assyria; ancestor of Christ **Amoz** father of Isaiah; nothing more is known about him **Ephraim** tribe descended from the second son of Joseph, received the firstborn's blessing from Jacob; considered one of the twelve tribes of Israel **Gentiles** non-Jews **Hezekiah** a religious reformer and king of Judah who abolished idol worship and reopened the Temple in Jerusalem **Immanuel** symbolic name for the coming Christ which means *God with us* **Issac** Abraham and Sarah's son; father of Esau and Jacob; ancestor of Christ **Isaiah** the "prince of prophets," Isaiah foretells the destruction of the kingdom and the coming of Christ **Jacob** father of the twelve tribes of Israel; grandson of Abraham; son of Isaac; ancestor of Christ **Jesse** father of David; ancestor of Christ **Jotham** Uzziah's son and successor as king of Judah, he was a good king who fortified the buildings but neglected to tear down the high places; ancestor of Christ **Judah** tribe descended from Jacob's fourth son; ancestor of Christ **Medes** descendants of Japheth, a son of Noah; settled in an area west and south of the Caspian Sea **Naphtali** tribe descended from Jacob's sixth son **Philistines** settlers in Canaan, the people of Philistia battle with Israel throughout the ages of the judges and kings **Remaliah** [uncertain] **Sarah** Abraham's wife; Isaac's mother; ancestor of Christ **Saul** Israel's first king, he loses God's support by not following Him faithfully, then failing to repent **Savior** Christ **Sennacherib** Assyrian king who is miraculously defeated when the angel of the Lord puts 185,000 of his men to death; this defeat is foretold by Isaiah **Tabeel** nothing is known about Tabeel **Uzziah** an otherwise good king of Judah whom God afflicted with leprosy when he attempted to perform priestly duties; ancestor of Christ **Zebulun** tribe descended from Jacob's tenth son

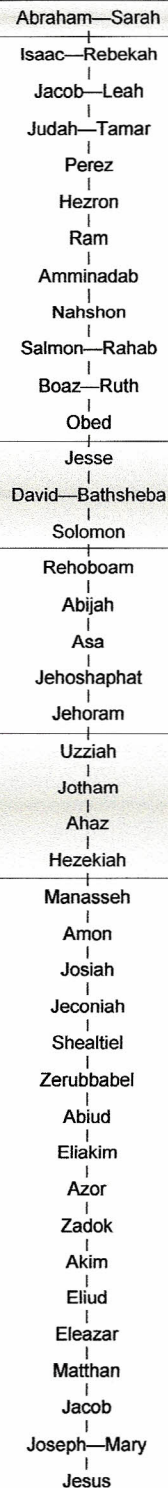
PLACES

Assyria ancient kingdom which overthrows Israel **City of David** Jerusalem **Ninevah** capital of Assyria **Rahab** symbolizes Egypt **Zion** one of the hills on which Jerusalem is built; alternative name for Jerusalem

TERMS

Asherah poles wooden images of a Canaanite fertility goddess **bath** liquid measure equivalent to about 6 gallons **circumcise** to cut off a section of the excess skin at the top of a male's penis; spiritually this is a symbol of the covenant between God and His chosen people **ephah** dry measure equivalent to about 15 cups **eu-nuch** male who cannot perform sexually, either as the result of natural causes or maiming; often used in the king's household as servants to the women **homer** dry measure equivalent to about 220 liters **Leviathan** literally, a large sea monster, perhaps a crocodile or whale; figuratively, one of Israel's enemies **New Moon festivals** celebrations marking each new moon with special sacrifices **potsherd** piece of broken pottery **seraphs** heavenly beings with six wings **tere-binth** a kind of tree

Genealogy of Christ



930	722	587	538	336	63 BC
Divided Kingdom	Samaria	Jerusalem	Judeans return	Greek rule	Roman rule
North: Ahab Elijah	South: Hezekiah Isaiah	falls to Assyria, scatters	falls to Babylon, exiled	Esther Ezra Nehemiah	