

Lesson 7 – Isaiah

Text: Isaiah

Key Passages:

- Isaiah 11 – Prophecy of restoration, unity, and peace once again for God’s people.
- Isaiah 53 – The reunion of God with man is only possible through the sacrifice of Jesus.

Background Information:

Isaiah was a prophet sent to both Israel and Judah, though his prophecies dealt predominantly with God’s plans for Judah, Jerusalem, and God’s people in general. He began his ministry around the same time as Amos and Hosea, (compare Isaiah 1:1 with Amos 1:1 and Hosea 1:1). He seems to have prophesied for a much longer time than Amos or Hosea, however. While Isaiah spoke extensively about the sins and punishment of God’s people (as Amos and Hosea), one of the major topics of his prophecies is the ultimate restoration of His people through His servant, Jesus, the Messiah.

Outline:

- I. Purpose: to condemn the sins of God’s people (and others) and prophesy of the ultimate deliverance that would come in the future through Jesus, the Messiah
- II. Messages to Israel and Judah (1-12)
 - a. Both Israel and Judah were full of sin (ritualism, 1:15; idolatry 2:5-8; various sorts of immorality 5:8-24; compared to Sodom and Gomorrah, 1:10, 3:9)
 - b. Promises of eventual deliverance (exaltation of God’s house (2:1-4; virgin birth of Immanuel, 7:14; a light coming forth and the throne of David, 9:1-7; final peace in God’s house, 11:1-9)
 - c. Isaiah was commissioned as a prophet by God (6)
- III. God’s Messages for the Nations (13-27) – All nations were going to be held accountable to God
- IV. Rebukes Against Israel (28-35)
 - a. Various sins rebuked (pride, 28:1-3; vain worship, 29:13-14; relying on other nations, 30:1-3)
 - b. Hope for Israel’s future return (35)
- V. Historical Account of Hezekiah (36-39)
- VI. God Will Deliver Israel (40-48)
 - a. God would eventually rescue His people and restore it (40:10-11, 27-31)
 - b. After their punishment, God would return His people to their land by Cyrus (44:28-45:1)
- VII. God’s Suffering Servant (49-57)
 - a. The voice of Christ, God’s servant (49:1ff)
 - b. Prophecies of Jesus as the suffering servant (53)
 - i. Jesus would not be what the world expected (53:1-3)
 - ii. Jesus would suffer for the sins of God’s people (53:4-6)
 - iii. Jesus would suffer despite the fact that He had committed no sin (53:7-9)
 - iv. Through His suffering, Jesus would accomplish the will of God (53:10-12)
- VIII. Discussion of the Glorified Zion (58-66)
 - a. God calls His people to worship selflessly, not by focusing on themselves (58)
 - b. No sin is too great to be overcome by God’s power; He will be reunited with His people (59)
 - c. God would establish a new, glorified Zion, a new heavens and a new earth (60-66)

Lessons/Applications:

- 1.) The world today excuses many sins; we must use the higher standard that God has given us.
- 2.) God has the power to reunite us with Him, despite our sin, through the sacrifice of Jesus.