

Isaiah

God sends the prophet Isaiah to warn Israel of future judgment—but also to tell them about a coming king and servant who will “bear the sins of many.” A book of miracles and wonders.

Author: Isaiah (and maybe some of his followers) He had audience with several Kings.

In Isaiah – Jesus is the Prince of Peace

"He tends His flock like a shepherd.

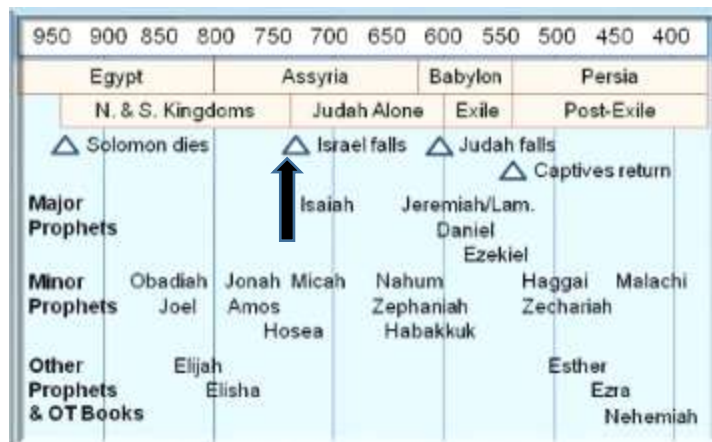
Isaiah 40:11 He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to his heart.

He gently leads those that have young."

Isaiah 40:22 "It is He that sitteth on the circle of the earth....."



The seal below was found in an archaeological dig where King Hezekiah's seal was found in Israel. It is the seal of Isaiah the Prophet.



TEACHER: 66 CHAPTERS

"when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word which the Lord has not spoken" (Deuteronomy 18:22) (KJV)

At the time of the prophecies contained in this book, Israel existed as a divided kingdom. We are just over 250 years after Solomon died, and as you can recall, Israel was divided under Solomon's son. We are 700-800 years before Christ. Waffling back and forth over revival, apathy, judgement and repentance, it would take 4 kings for Isaiah to have a king worth his salt enough to do the hard things required to bring Israel back to the Lord. As a result, the book of Isaiah is the 2nd most quoted Old Testament book in the New Testament. Does anyone know the 1st? Isaiah is 2nd only to Psalms. Isaiah also contains the 2 most famous fulfilled prophecies in the Bible. The virgin birth in chapter 7, and the suffering of Christ for our sins in chapters 52-53. Isaiah did not see the Babylonian exile. Jeremiah did see the Babylonian captivity, along with the destruction of the temple and Jerusalem, and survived it. Ezekiel and Daniel lived in the captivity, with Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi serving in the post exilic period of Israel's history. Isaiah's contemporaries were the prophets Amos (his father and the son of king Joash and brother to Amaziah who would also become king), Hosea, and Micah.

CH. 1

STUDENT:

This is the vision Isaiah son of Amoz saw about what would happen to Judah and Jerusalem. Isaiah saw these things while Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah were kings of Judah. (NCV)

TEACHER:

The list of kings given in the 1st verse here matters. It shows how God works. The 1st king here is Uzziah. He takes the throne and rules as co-regent with his father at 16 years old. He was the most prosperous king since Solomon. He ruled altogether for 52 years. 26 years with his father, and when his father died, he ruled alone. He hired and commissioned wise men who built catapults and large crossbows for defense that could be shot from the towers around Jerusalem. His fame went all the way to Egypt. Uzziah was Isaiah's cousin. Zechariah was Uzziah's counselor and a prophet. I have no doubt that Godly Zechariah is the man that touched Isaiah's heart. By the time Hezekiah is on the throne, Isaiah is called by God to speak His word that started the year Uzziah died. Uzziah starts out wonderful, and follows God. At one point in his rule he crossed a very dangerous line. He performed a sacrifice in offering incense in the Temple. An earthquake occurred and the Temple was rent, causing the light to touch his face, giving him leprosy. He was immediately driven from the Temple and compelled to reside in a separate house for the rest of his life. The year of his death was the year God started to speak to Isaiah.

Below is Uzziah's gravestone.



STUDENT:

Heaven and earth, listen, because the LORD is speaking: "I raised my children and helped them grow up, but they have turned against me. ³ An ox knows its master, and a donkey knows where its owner feeds it, but the people of Israel do not know me; my people do not understand." ⁴ How terrible! Israel is a nation of sin, a people loaded down with guilt, a group of children doing evil, children who are full of evil. They have left the LORD; they hate God, the Holy One of Israel, and have turned away from him as if he were a stranger. (NCV)

TEACHER:

The 1st thing God reveals personally to Isaiah is His broken heart. When God looks at us, He is looking at His children. As a parent it is heartbreaking when our children turn their backs on our advice and counsel. We should always strive to raise our standards.

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"If we can raise our standards and we don't, it is a shame.

If we can raise our standards for free, and we don't, it is a tragedy." DH

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STUDENT:

Hear the word of the LORD; listen to the teaching of our God!

¹¹ The LORD says, "I do not want all these sacrifices.

I have had enough of your burnt sacrifices of male sheep and fat from fine animals.

I am not pleased by the blood of bulls, lambs, and goats...

Wash yourselves and make yourselves clean. Stop doing the evil things I see you do.

Stop doing wrong. Learn to do good.

Seek justice. Punish those who hurt others. Help the orphans. Stand up for the rights of widows." (NCV)

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TEACHER:

"The great separation between all religions and Judeo-Christianity.

In order for your religion to be authentic, it must be voluntary." DH

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STUDENT:

The LORD says, "Come, let us talk about these things.

Though your sins are like scarlet, they can be as white as snow.

Though your sins are deep red, they can be white like wool.

¹⁹ If you become willing and obey me, you will eat good crops from the land.

²⁰ But if you refuse to obey and if you turn against me, you will be destroyed by your enemies' swords."

The LORD himself said these things. (NCV)

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TEACHERS:

The plea of a father to his children. A very close look at the personality of our Heavenly Father.

Chapter 2 starts with a prophetic word for the Middle East I'm sure you have all heard.

CH. 2

STUDENT:

In the last days, the mountain on which the LORD's Temple stands will become the most important of all mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and people from all nations will come streaming to it.

³ Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the Temple of the God of Jacob. Then God will teach us his ways, and we will obey his teachings."

His teachings will go out from Jerusalem; the message of the LORD will go out from Jerusalem.

⁴ He will settle arguments among the nations and will make decisions for many nations.

Then they will make their swords into plows and their spears into hooks for trimming trees.

Nations will no longer fight other nations, nor will they train for war anymore. (NCV)

TEACHER:

This famous saying, first spoken here, is repeated in Joel and Micah, and in a piece of art at the United Nations.

This is the sculpture, called “Forge,” by Vuchetich is located at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.



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STUDENT:

The LORD All-Powerful has a certain day planned when he will punish the proud and those who brag, and they will no longer be important...

At that time proud people will be made humble, and they will bow low with shame.

At that time only the LORD will be praised, ¹⁸ but all the idols will be gone....

Then the people will hide in caves and cracks in the rocks

from the anger of the LORD and his great power, when he stands to shake the earth.

²² You should stop trusting in people to save you, because people are only human; they aren't able to help you. (NCV)

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TEACHER:

The prophesy continues to include the coming diaspora. And the reason for the diaspora.

CH. 3

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STUDENT:

Now the Lord, the Almighty LORD, is about to take away from Jerusalem and Judah everything and everyone that the people depend on... Yes, Jerusalem is doomed! Judah is collapsing! Everything they say and do is against the LORD; they openly insult God himself. ⁹ Their prejudices will be held against them. They sin as openly as the people of Sodom did. They are doomed, and they have brought it on themselves. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Why is all this happening? What is the straw that breaks the camel's back for God?

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STUDENT:

The LORD is ready to state his case; he is ready to judge his people. ¹⁴ The LORD is bringing the elders and leaders of his people to judgment. He makes this accusation: "You have plundered vineyards, and your houses are full of what you have taken from the poor. ¹⁵ You have no right to crush my people and take advantage of the poor. I, the Sovereign LORD Almighty, have spoken." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Understand something about what you just read. This prophesy is not against the Babylonians, Greeks or Egyptians. They all did these same things that God is judging Israel for. And much worse. Israel is being held to a higher standard than everybody else because Israel should know better. The same holds true for the Christian in today's dispensation. If we refuse to be an example for the world regarding righteousness, God will use the world as an example of God's judgement towards us. Israel preferred idols over God. Israel preferred foreign marriage over same-faith marriage. God winked for a time. But when wholesale abuse of the underprivileged became acceptable to the population, that was the straw that broke the camel's back. This truth is still true in the New Testament. Jesus said in Matthew 25, "I was hungry....I was thirsty.....I was naked.....I was sick....I was in prison.... You all know the story of the sheep and the goats. God's reply from the throne was.... "go to hell."

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STUDENT: *Matthew 25:41-43*

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'" (NIV)

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TEACHER:

What will be the result of this judgement and purging? Glory.

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CH. 4

STUDENT:

The time is coming when the LORD will make every plant and tree in the land grow large and beautiful. All the people of Israel who survive will take delight and pride in the crops that the land produces. ³ Everyone who is left in Jerusalem, whom God has chosen for survival, will be called holy. ⁴ By his power the Lord will judge and purify the nation and wash away the guilt of Jerusalem and the blood that has been shed there. ⁵ Then over Mount Zion and over all who are gathered there, the LORD will send a cloud in the daytime and smoke and a bright flame at night. God's glory will cover and protect the whole city. ⁶ His glory will shade the city from the heat of the day and make it a place of safety, sheltered from the rain and storm. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

In chapter 5 the title of his sermon could be "You are Doomed." Isaiah repeats that phrase 6 times. All over the treatment of the poor. Not that God is upset that there are some poor people in Israel. Jesus said, "the poor you have with you always." It was the *abuse* of the poor. Taking advantage of people less fortunate than ourselves, to enrich ourselves. The abuse of power.

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CH. 5

STUDENT:

You are doomed! You call evil good and call good evil. You turn darkness into light and light into darkness. You make what is bitter sweet, and what is sweet you make bitter.

²¹ You are doomed! You think you are wise, so very clever.

²² You are doomed! Heroes of the wine bottle! Brave and fearless when it comes to mixing drinks! ²³ But for just a bribe you let the guilty go free, and you keep the innocent from getting justice. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Isaiah starts chapter 6 with His vision of God.

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CH. 6

STUDENT:

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. He was sitting on his throne, high and exalted, and his robe filled the whole Temple. ² Around him flaming creatures were standing, each of which had six wings. Each creature covered its face with two wings, and its body with two, and used the other two for flying. ³ They were calling out to each other:

“Holy, holy, holy!
The LORD Almighty is holy!
His glory fills the world.”

⁴ The sound of their voices made the foundation of the Temple shake, and the Temple itself became filled with smoke. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

He feels as if he will not survive the vision. Standing before the Holy God seated on His throne, he says, “There is no hope for me.” Then something wonderful happens. He is forgiven of his sins.

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STUDENT:

Then one of the creatures flew down to me, carrying a burning coal that he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷ He touched my lips with the burning coal and said, “This has touched your lips, and now your guilt is gone, and your sins are forgiven.”

⁸ Then I heard the Lord say, “Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?”
I answered, “I will go! Send me!” (GNT)

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TEACHER:

The message he is told to give is utter destruction. Complete removal of everyone from the land. The vision came the year King Uzziah died. Now fast forward, and King Ahaz (his grandson) is on the throne and war has begun. God sends Isaiah with his son to the king of Judah to tell him not to fear. God will not punish Judah with this Syrian Israel alliance because Israel has already been judged, and will soon be permanently scattered. In the middle of this impending war and judgement, the Lord still marks His love for the “faithful few.” A messianic prophesy.

CH. 7

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STUDENT:

The LORD sent another message to Ahaz: ¹¹ “Ask the LORD your God to give you a sign. It can be from deep in the world of the dead or from high up in heaven.”

¹² Ahaz answered, “I will not ask for a sign. I refuse to put the LORD to the test.”

¹³ To that Isaiah replied, “Listen, now, descendants of King David. It's bad enough for you to wear out the patience of people—do you have to wear out God's patience too? ¹⁴ Well then, the Lord himself will give you a sign: a young woman (a virgin) who is pregnant will have a son and will name him ‘Immanuel.’ ¹⁵ By the time he is old enough to make his own decisions, people will be drinking milk and eating honey. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

In chapter 8 God reveals that the time of reckoning is at hand. His wife is going to get pregnant and before the boy can say mommy and daddy Assyria will destroy and loot Israel. The Northern Kingdom will come to an end. He further states that Judah's destruction will follow suit. He tells Isaiah to warn Judah not to go to, or listen to mediums, fortunetellers or the like.

CH. 8

STUDENT:

You, my disciples, are to guard and preserve the messages that God has given me. ¹⁷ The LORD has hidden himself from his people, but I trust him and place my hope in him.

¹⁸ Here I am with the children the LORD has given me. The LORD Almighty, whose throne is on Mount Zion, has sent us as living messages to the people of Israel.

¹⁹ But people will tell you to ask for messages from fortunetellers and mediums, who chirp and mutter. They will say, "After all, people should ask for messages from the spirits and consult the dead on behalf of the living."

²⁰ You are to answer them, "Listen to what the LORD is teaching you! Don't listen to mediums—what they tell you cannot keep trouble away." (GNT)

TEACHER:

In the midst of all this impending doom God reveals his long game strategy. A messianic prophesy.

CH. 9

STUDENT:

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.....
⁶ A child is born to us!
A son is given to us!
And he will be our ruler.
He will be called, "Wonderful Counselor,"
"Mighty God," "Eternal Father,"
"Prince of Peace."

⁷ His royal power will continue to grow;
his kingdom will always be at peace.
He will rule as King David's successor,
basing his power on right and justice,
from now until the end of time.

The LORD Almighty is determined to do all this. (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 10 God reveals He will use Assyria as a club to punish Israel, and then He will punish Assyria for pride. He then softens the blow with a promise of a future remnant.

CH. 10

STUDENT:

A time is coming when the people of Israel who have survived will not rely any more on the nation that almost destroyed them. They will truly put their trust in the LORD, Israel's holy God. ²¹ A few of the people of Israel will come back to their mighty God. ²² Even though now there are as many people of Israel as there are grains of sand by the sea, only a few will come back. (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 11 we have a prophesy regarding Christ as the ruler of His people. "If you want the job done right....."

CH. 11

STUDENT: *His legal authority to rule as a descendant of David.*

The royal line of David is like a tree that has been cut down; but just as new branches sprout from a stump, so a new king will arise from among David's descendants. (GNT)

STUDENT: *How He will rule.*

The spirit of the LORD will give him wisdom
and the knowledge and skill to rule his people.

He will know the LORD's will and honor him,

³ and find pleasure in obeying him.

He will not judge by appearance or hearsay;

⁴ he will judge the poor fairly

and defend the rights of the helpless.

At his command the people will be punished,

and evil persons will die.

⁵ He will rule his people with justice and integrity. (GNT)

STUDENT: *The results of His rule.*

Wolves and sheep will live together in peace,

and leopards will lie down with young goats.

Calves and lion cubs will feed together,

and little children will take care of them.

⁷ Cows and bears will eat together,

and their calves and cubs will lie down in peace.

Lions will eat straw as cattle do.

⁸ Even a baby will not be harmed if it plays near a poisonous snake.

⁹ On Zion, God's sacred hill, there will be nothing harmful or evil.

The land will be as full of knowledge of the LORD

as the seas are full of water. (GNT)

TEACHER:

The chapter ends with the return of the children of Israel, even the "lost tribes" to the Holy Land.

STUDENT:

A day is coming when the new king from the royal line of David will be a symbol to the nations. They will gather in his royal city and give him honor. ¹¹ When that day comes, the Lord will once again use his power and bring back home those of his people who are left in Assyria and Egypt, in the lands of Pathros, Ethiopia, Elam, Babylonia, and Hamath, and in the coastlands and on the islands of the sea. ¹² The Lord will raise a signal flag to show the nations that he is gathering together again the scattered people of Israel and Judah and bringing them back from the four corners of the earth. ¹³ The kingdom of Israel will not be jealous of Judah any more, and Judah will not be the enemy of Israel. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 12 contains 2 beautiful short songs.

CH. 12

STUDENT: *Song one*

"I praise you, LORD! You were angry with me,
but now you comfort me and are angry no longer.

² God is my savior;

I will trust him and not be afraid.

The LORD gives me power and strength;
he is my savior.

³ As fresh water brings joy to the thirsty,
so God's people rejoice when he saves them." (GNT)

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STUDENT: *Song two*

"Give thanks to the LORD! Call for him to help you!

Tell all the nations what he has done!

Tell them how great he is!

⁵ Sing to the LORD because of the great things he has done.

Let the whole world hear the news.

⁶ Let everyone who lives in Zion shout and sing!

Israel's holy God is great,
and he lives among his people." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 13 contains a prophesy against Babylon. The city of Babylon is mentioned many times in scripture, and every time it is unflattering to say the least. Part of its problem may be in its name. In the Akkadian language of the region in that time, "bav-il" or "bav-ilium," meant "gate of the gods." The name Babylon is from the Greek and has come to mean confusion, as a result of the tower story in Genesis chapter 11. But an entire city dedicated to the false gods of the world, known worldwide for its sins and debauchery, is going to be judged. Chapter 13 says the destruction will be permanent. And so it sits, to this day, desolate. The 1st archaeological dig didn't even occur until German archaeologist Robert Koldewey first excavated the ruins of Babylon in 1899. Babylon is located in modern day Iraq. Here is just 1 portion of a chapter full of destruction.

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STUDENT:

But I, the LORD, will overthrow Babylon as I did Sodom and Gomorrah! ²⁰ No one will ever live there again. No wandering Arab will ever pitch a tent there, and no shepherd will ever pasture a flock there. ²¹ It will be a place where desert animals live and where owls build their nests. Ostriches will live there, and wild goats will prance through the ruins. ²² The towers and palaces will echo with the cries of hyenas and jackals. Babylon's time has come! Her days are almost over." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 14 shows the return of Israel from the diaspora.

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CH. 13

CH. 14

STUDENT:

The LORD will once again be merciful to his people Israel and choose them as his own. He will let them live in their own land again, and foreigners will come and live there with them. ² Many nations will help the people of Israel return to the land which the LORD gave them, and there the nations will serve Israel as slaves. Those who once captured Israel will now be captured by Israel, and the people of Israel will rule over those who once oppressed them. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Continuing in chapter 14 most if not all scholars see a luciferian mention linked to the king of Babylon.

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STUDENT:

King of Babylon, bright morning star, you have fallen from heaven! In the past you conquered nations, but now you have been thrown to the ground. ¹³ You were determined to climb up to heaven and to place your throne above the highest stars. You thought you would sit like a king on that mountain in the north where the gods assemble. ¹⁴ You said you would climb to the tops of the clouds and be like the Almighty. ¹⁵ But instead, you have been brought down to the deepest part of the world of the dead. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

The prophesy against Babylon is followed by the Assyrians, the Philistines, Moab and Syria. These prophesies continue through to chapter 17. The prophesy against Israel hurts the most.

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CH. 17

STUDENT:

Israel, you have forgotten the God who rescues you and protects you like a mighty rock. Instead, you plant sacred gardens in order to worship a foreign god. ¹¹ But even if they sprouted and blossomed the very morning you planted them, there would still be no harvest. There would be only trouble and incurable pain. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 18 prophesies against Ethiopia, with the result that they will seek God. We know this prophesy was fulfilled by the time of Acts 8 when an Ethiopian eunuch came to Jerusalem to worship the Lord.

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CH. 18

STUDENT:

Before the grapes are gathered, when the blossoms have all fallen and the grapes are ripening, the enemy will destroy the Ethiopians as easily as a knife cuts branches from a vine.....

A time is coming when the LORD Almighty will receive offerings from this land divided by rivers, this strong and powerful nation, this tall and smooth-skinned people, who are feared all over the world. They will come to Mount Zion, where the LORD Almighty is worshiped. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 19 does to Egypt what happened to Ethiopia in chapter 18. Destruction, loss of autonomy and self-rule, followed by revival.

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CH. 19

STUDENT:

When that time comes, there will be an altar to the LORD in the land of Egypt and a stone pillar dedicated to him at the Egyptian border. ²⁰They will be symbols of the LORD Almighty's presence in Egypt. When the people there are oppressed and call out to the LORD for help, he will send someone to rescue them. ²¹The LORD will reveal himself to the Egyptian people, and then they will acknowledge and worship him, and bring him sacrifices and offerings. They will make solemn promises to him and do what they promise. ²²The LORD will punish the Egyptians, but then he will heal them. They will turn to him, and he will hear their prayers and heal them. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 20 reveals a 3 year period during which Isaiah is told by God to walk naked as a symbol of God's punishment. 3 years without shoes or clothes. Who wants to be a prophet now? Remember when Isaiah was in the throne room saying "I will go?" Everyone one of us agreed with him then. I must wonder if Isaiah played that scene in his mind over and over again during these 3 years.

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STUDENT:

Three years earlier the LORD had told Isaiah son of Amoz to take off his sandals and the sackcloth he was wearing. He obeyed and went around naked and barefoot. ³When Ashdod was captured, the LORD said, "My servant Isaiah has been going around naked and barefoot for three years. This is a sign of what will happen to Egypt and Ethiopia. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

The prophesies continue with more on Babylon, and then, Edom and Arabia. Move to chapter 22 and we see a glaring view of unforgivable sin. When one is called to repentance, and scoffs.

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CH. 22

STUDENT:

The Sovereign LORD Almighty was calling you then to weep and mourn, to shave your heads and wear sackcloth. ¹³Instead, you laughed and celebrated. You killed sheep and cattle to eat, and you drank wine. You said, "We might as well eat and drink! Tomorrow we'll be dead."

¹⁴The Sovereign LORD Almighty himself spoke to me and said, "This evil will never be forgiven them as long as they live. I, the Sovereign LORD Almighty, have spoken." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

A prophesy of the great tribulation period.

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STUDENT:

Look! The LORD will destroy the earth and leave it empty; he will ruin the surface of the land and scatter its people. ²At that time the same thing will happen to everyone: to common people and priests, to slaves and masters, to women slaves and their women masters, to buyers and sellers, to those who borrow and those who lend, to bankers and those who owe the bank. ³The earth will be completely empty. The wealth will all be taken, because the LORD has commanded it. ⁴The earth will dry up and die; the world will grow weak and die; the great leaders in this land will become weak. ⁵The people of the earth have ruined it, because they do not follow God's teachings or obey God's laws or keep their agreement with God that was to last forever. ⁶So a curse will destroy the earth. The people of the world are guilty, so they will be burned up; only a few will be left. (NCV)

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STUDENT:

At that time the LORD will punish the powers in the sky above and the rulers on earth below.
²² They will be gathered together like prisoners thrown into a dungeon; they will be shut up in prison.
After much time they will be punished. ²³ The moon will be embarrassed, and the sun will be ashamed,
because the LORD All-Powerful will rule as king on Mount Zion in Jerusalem.
Jerusalem's leaders will see his greatness. (NCV)

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TEACHER:

Directly after the tribulation period prophesy, we have the reign of Christ.

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STUDENT:

CH. 25

LORD, you are my God.
I honor you and praise you,
because you have done amazing things.
You have always done what you said you would do;
you have done what you planned long ago....
The LORD All-Powerful will prepare a feast
on this mountain for all people.
It will be a feast with all the best food and wine,
the finest meat and wine.
⁷ On this mountain God will destroy
the veil that covers all nations,
the veil that stretches over all peoples;
⁸ he will destroy death forever.
The Lord GOD will wipe away every tear from every face.
He will take away the shame of his people from the earth.
The LORD has spoken. (NCV)

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TEACHER:

Next God avenges the righteous dead.

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STUDENT:

CH. 26

My people, go into your rooms
and shut your doors behind you.
Hide in your rooms for a short time
until God's anger is finished.
²¹ The LORD will leave his place
to punish the people of the world for their sins.
The earth will show the blood of the people who have been killed;
it will not cover the dead any longer. (NCV)

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TEACHER:

Isaiah tells Israel that after the diaspora He will bring them home.

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CH. 27

STUDENT:

At that time the LORD will begin gathering his people one by one from the Euphrates River to the brook of Egypt. He will separate them from others as grain is separated from chaff. ¹³ Many of my people are now lost in Assyria. Some have run away to Egypt. But at that time a great trumpet will be blown, and all those people will come and worship the LORD on that holy mountain in Jerusalem. (NCV)

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TEACHER:

In chapter 28 a messianic prophesy.

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CH. 28

STUDENT:

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.....
This also cometh forth from the LORD of hosts, which is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working. (KJV)

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TEACHER:

In chapter 29, we have a verse from Isaiah that Jesus quoted in Matthew chapter 15.

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CH. 29

STUDENT:

“These people worship me with their mouths, and honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.
Their worship is based on
nothing but human rules.
¹⁴ So I will continue to amaze these people
by doing more and more miracles.
Their wise men will lose their wisdom;
their wise men will not be able to understand.” (NCV)

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TEACHER:

The next passage relates the familiar biblical comparison of the potter and the clay.

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STUDENT:

How terrible it will be for those who try to hide things from the LORD and who do their work in darkness. They think no one will see them or know what they do. ¹⁶ You are confused. You think the clay is equal to the potter. You think that an object can tell the one who made it, “You didn’t make me.” This is like a pot telling its maker, “You don’t know anything.” (NCV)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 30 shows again how in the midst of 1 prophesy after another, God sees when our hearts are toward him.

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CH. 30

STUDENT:

The LORD wants to show his mercy to you. He wants to rise and comfort you.
The LORD is a fair God, and everyone who waits for his help will be happy. (NCV)

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TEACHER:

We have all heard the common phrase, Lions don't lose sleep over the opinions of lambs? Here in chapter 31 is the inspiration.

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CH. 31

STUDENT:

"When a lion or a lion's cub kills an animal to eat,
it stands over the dead animal and roars.

A band of shepherds
may be assembled against it,
but the lion will not be afraid of their yelling
or upset by their noise.

So the LORD All-Powerful will come down
to fight on Mount Zion and on its hill.

⁵ The LORD All-Powerful will defend Jerusalem
like birds flying over their nests.

He will defend and save it;
he will 'pass over' and save Jerusalem." (NCV)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 32 holds a beautiful cause and effect verse on righteousness.

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STUDENT:

The work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.
(NKJV)

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TEACHER:

In chapter 33 our future with God.

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CH. 33

STUDENT:

The LORD will show us his glory. We will live beside broad rivers and streams, but hostile ships will not sail on them. ²²⁻²³ All the rigging on those ships is useless; the sails cannot be spread! We will seize all the wealth of enemy armies, and there will be so much that even the lame can get a share. The LORD himself will be our king; he will rule over us and protect us. ²⁴ No one who lives in our land will ever again complain of being sick, and all sins will be forgiven. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 34 on the surface is certainly a prophesy of the destruction of the Kingdom of Assyria. An empire assembled from many nations and armies, however, it is also quite clearly a prophesy of God's judgement on the world after the tribulation period. I believe this, with many scholars, because once extinct animals will be restored to earth.

=====

CH. 34



STUDENT: *The destruction.*

Come, people of all nations! Gather around and listen. Let the whole earth and everyone living on it come here and listen. ²The LORD is angry with all the nations and all their armies. He has condemned them to destruction. ³Their corpses will not be buried, but will lie there rotting and stinking; and the mountains will be red with blood. ⁴The sun, moon, and stars will crumble to dust. The sky will disappear like a scroll being rolled up, and the stars will fall like leaves dropping from a vine or a fig tree. (GNT)

=====

STUDENT: *The restoration.*

Search in the LORD's book of living creatures and read what it says. Not one of these creatures will be missing, and not one will be without its mate. The LORD has commanded it to be so; he himself will bring them together. ¹⁷It is the LORD who will divide the land among them and give each of them a share. They will live in the land age after age, and it will belong to them forever. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

In chapter 35 a picture of Jerusalem during the 1,000 year reign of Christ.

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STUDENT:

The desert will rejoice, and flowers will bloom in the wastelands.

²The desert will sing and shout for joy; it will be as beautiful as the Lebanon Mountains
and as fertile as the fields of Carmel and Sharon.

Everyone will see the LORD's splendor, see his greatness and power...

The blind will be able to see, and the deaf will hear.

⁶The lame will leap and dance, and those who cannot speak will shout for joy.

Streams of water will flow through the desert;

⁷ the burning sand will become a lake, and dry land will be filled with springs....

There will be a highway there, called "The Road of Holiness."

No sinner will ever travel that road; no fools will mislead those who follow it....

Those whom the LORD has rescued will travel home by that road.

¹⁰They will reach Jerusalem with gladness, singing and shouting for joy.

They will be happy forever, forever free from sorrow and grief. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

In chapter 36, the 14th year of King Hezekiah's reign, Sennacherib, the emperor of Assyria, attacked and captured the fortified cities of Judah. Next on his list is Jerusalem, its capital, and home of the temple of God. The Assyrian ambassador talks to the 3 ambassadors of Jerusalem and King Hezekiah.

=====

STUDENT: *The Assyrian ambassador*

The Assyrian official told them that the emperor wanted to know what made King Hezekiah so confident. ⁵He demanded, "Do you think that words can take the place of military skill and might? Who do you think will help you rebel against Assyria?..."

"Or will you tell me that you are relying on the LORD your God? It was the LORD's shrines and altars that Hezekiah destroyed when he told the people of Judah and Jerusalem to worship at one altar only. ⁸I will make a bargain with you in the name of the emperor. I will give you two thousand horses if you can find that many riders....

Do you think I have attacked your country and destroyed it without the LORD's help? The LORD himself told me to attack it and destroy it." (GNT)

CH. 35

CH. 36

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TEACHER:

The King had told everybody to keep quiet, so they held their tongues and reported to the king. The king went to the Temple to seek God and called for Isaiah the Prophet for a word from the Lord.

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STUDENT:

When Isaiah received King Hezekiah's message, ⁶ he sent back this answer: "The LORD tells you not to let the Assyrians frighten you by their claims that he cannot save you. ⁷ The LORD will cause the emperor to hear a rumor that will make him go back to his own country, and the LORD will have him killed there." (GNT)

=====

TEACHER:

All of a sudden, the Assyrian army hears of an attack on their home country, and retreat to defend themselves. Before the army heads home they send a warning letter to Hezekiah and leave. Hezekiah takes the letter to the Temple and prays.

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STUDENT: *Hezekiah's prayer*

"Almighty LORD, God of Israel, seated above the winged creatures, you alone are God, ruling all the kingdoms of the world. You created the earth and the sky. ¹⁷ Now, LORD, hear us and look at what is happening to us. Listen to all the things that Sennacherib is saying to insult you, the living God. ¹⁸ We all know, LORD, that the emperors of Assyria have destroyed many nations, made their lands desolate, ¹⁹ and burned up their gods—which were no gods at all, only images of wood and stone made by human hands. ²⁰ Now, LORD our God, rescue us from the Assyrians, so that all the nations of the world will know that you alone are God." (GNT)

=====

STUDENT: *The Lord's response from God.*

Then Isaiah sent a message telling King Hezekiah that in answer to the king's prayer ²² the LORD had said, "The city of Jerusalem laughs at you, Sennacherib, and makes fun of you. ²³ Whom do you think you have been insulting and ridiculing? You have been disrespectful to me, the holy God of Israel.....

"But I know everything about you, what you do and where you go. I know how you rage against me. ²⁹ I have received the report of that rage and that pride of yours, and now I will put a hook through your nose and a bit in your mouth and will take you back by the same road you came." (GNT)

=====

TEACHER:

The Lord wanting to bolster King Hezekiah's faith gives him a sign. For 2 years they will not farm and still be able to survive, and then on the 3rd year they will be able to plant, harvest, and eat what they planted. He then prophesied about the Assyrians. They would not enter the city, or shoot 1 arrow against it. And the Assyrians will return home. The Lord said He would defend Jerusalem.

=====

STUDENT:

An angel of the LORD went to the Assyrian camp and killed 185,000 soldiers. At dawn the next day there they lay, all dead! ³⁷ Then the Assyrian emperor Sennacherib withdrew and returned to Nineveh. ³⁸ One day when he was worshiping in the temple of his god Nisroch, two of his sons, Adrammelech and Sharezer, killed him with their swords and then escaped to the land of Ararat. Another of his sons, Esarhaddon, succeeded him as emperor. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Not long after this Hezekiah becomes deathly ill, and Isaiah tells him to get his affairs in order.
"Get ready to die."

STUDENT:

Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed: ³"Remember, LORD, that I have served you faithfully and loyally, and that I have always tried to do what you wanted me to." And he began to cry bitterly.
⁴Then the LORD commanded Isaiah ⁵to go back to Hezekiah and say to him, "I, the LORD, the God of your ancestor David, have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will let you live fifteen years longer. ⁶I will rescue you and this city of Jerusalem from the emperor of Assyria, and I will continue to protect the city." (GNT)

TEACHER:

God answers prayer. Hezekiah is worried because the type of illness he was to be healed of, would preclude him from temple worship. Isaiah promises a sign. And it is a big one.

STUDENT:

Isaiah replied, "The LORD will give you a sign to prove that he will keep his promise. ⁸On the stairway built by King Ahaz, the LORD will make the shadow go back ten steps." And the shadow moved back ten steps. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Hezekiah entertains guests who visited him from Babylon when they heard he was sick. Hezekiah showed them all of the wealth of Israel. This upset the Lord, so He sent Isaiah to prophesy to Hezekiah.

STUDENT:

Isaiah then told the king, "The LORD Almighty says that ⁶a time is coming when everything in your palace, everything that your ancestors have stored up to this day, will be carried off to Babylonia. Nothing will be left. ⁷Some of your own direct descendants will be taken away and made eunuchs to serve in the palace of the king of Babylonia." ⁸King Hezekiah understood this to mean that there would be peace and security during his lifetime, so he replied, "The message you have given me from the LORD is good." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Isaiah prophesies words of hope to all who love God in the next 3 segments. Speak out as the Spirit moves you.

STUDENT:

"Comfort my people," says our God. "Comfort them! ²Encourage the people of Jerusalem. Tell them they have suffered long enough and their sins are now forgiven I have punished them in full for all their sins."... Jerusalem, go up on a high mountain and proclaim the good news! Call out with a loud voice, Zion; announce the good news! Speak out and do not be afraid. Tell the towns of Judah that their God is coming! (GNT)

STUDENT:

¹⁰The Sovereign LORD is coming to rule with power, bringing with him the people he has rescued.
¹¹He will take care of his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs together and carry them in his arms; he will gently lead their mothers.... The LORD is the everlasting God; he created all the world.
He never grows tired or weary. No one understands his thoughts. (GNT)

STUDENT:

²⁹ He strengthens those who are weak and tired....

But those who trust in the LORD for help will find their strength renewed.

They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 42 is clearly a reference to Jesus. Matthew 12:16-21 quotes the passage in reference to Jesus.

CH. 42

STUDENT:

“Behold! My Servant whom I uphold,
My Elect One *in whom* My soul delights!
I have put My Spirit upon Him;
He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles....
He will not cry out, nor raise *His voice*,
Nor cause His voice to be heard in the street.
³ A bruised reed He will not break,
And smoking flax He will not quench;
He will bring forth justice for truth.
⁴ He will not fail nor be discouraged,
Till He has established justice in the earth;
And the coastlands shall wait for His law.” (NKJV)

STUDENT: *continued*

“I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness,
And will hold Your hand;
I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people,
As a light to the Gentiles,
⁷ To open blind eyes,
To bring out prisoners from the prison,
Those who sit in darkness from the prison house.
⁸ I *am* the LORD, that *is* My name;
And My glory I will not give to another (NKJV)

STUDENT: *continued*

“Hear, you deaf;
And look, you blind, that you may see.
¹⁹ Who *is* blind but My servant,
Or deaf as My messenger *whom* I send?
Who *is* blind as *he who is* perfect,
And blind as the LORD’s servant?
²⁰ Seeing many things, but you do not observe; Opening the ears, but he does not hear.” (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Chapter 43 reveals God is our Redeemer.

CH. 43

STUDENT:

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called *you* by your name;
You *are* Mine....
I *am* the LORD your God,
The Holy One of Israel, your Savior...
Since you were precious in My sight,
You have been honored,
And I have loved you.....
Everyone who is called by My name,
Whom I have created for My glory;
I have formed him, yes, I have made him.".....
Before Me there was no God formed,
Nor shall there be after Me. (NKJV)

STUDENT:

¹¹ I, *even* I, *am* the LORD,
And besides Me *there is* no savior.
¹² I have declared and saved,
I have proclaimed,...
"Do not remember the former things,
Nor consider the things of old.
¹⁹ Behold, I will do a new thing,
Now it shall spring forth;
Shall you not know it?
I will even make a road in the wilderness
And rivers in the desert...
"I, *even* I, *am* He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake;
And I will not remember your sins.
²⁶ Put Me in remembrance... (NKJV)

TEACHER:

In chapter 44 we have the One True God.

CH. 44

STUDENT:

"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
'I *am* the First and I *am* the Last; Besides Me *there is* no God.... Do not fear, nor be afraid;
Have I not told you from that time, and declared *it*?
You *are* My witnesses.
Is there a God besides Me?
Indeed *there is* no other Rock;
I know not *one*.' " (NKJV)

TEACHER:

In chapter 45 a proclamation of God our Savior.

CH. 45

STUDENT:

"Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I *am* God, and *there is* no other.

²³ I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth *in* righteousness,

And shall not return, That to Me every knee shall bow, Every tongue shall take an oath.

²⁴ He shall say, 'Surely in the LORD I have righteousness and strength. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

God's power and authority.

CH. 46

STUDENT:

Remember the former things of old, For I *am* God, and *there is* no other;

I *am* God, and *there is* none like Me, ¹⁰ Declaring the end from the beginning,

And from ancient times *things* that are not *yet* done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand,

And I will do all My pleasure,' ¹¹ Calling a bird of prey from the east,

The man who executes My counsel, from a far country.

Indeed I have spoken *it*; I will also bring it to pass.

I have purposed *it*; I will also do it. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Skipping to chapter 49, a wonderful messianic prophesy.

CH. 49

STUDENT:

'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant

To raise up the tribes of Jacob,

And to restore the preserved ones of Israel;

I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles,

That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.' " (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Chapter 50 holds another messianic prophesy. This one is of Jesus suffering.

CH. 50

STUDENT:

The Lord GOD has opened My ear;

And I was not rebellious, Nor did I turn away.

⁶ I gave My back to those who struck *Me*, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard;

I did not hide My face from shame and spitting....

"For the Lord GOD will help *Me*; Therefore I will not be disgraced;

Therefore I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

In Isaiah 51 God encourages us.

CH. 51

STUDENT:

"Listen to Me, you who know righteousness, You people in whose heart *is* My law:

Do not fear the reproach of men, Nor be afraid of their insults.

⁸For the moth will eat them up like a garment, And the worm will eat them like wool;
But My righteousness will be forever, And My salvation from generation to generation." (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Isaiah 52 talks about those of us who spread the good news.

CH. 52

STUDENT:

How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news,

Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good *things*,

Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" ...

Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.

¹⁴Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man,

And His form more than the sons of men; ¹⁵So shall He sprinkle many nations.

Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; For what had not been told them they shall see,

And what they had not heard they shall consider. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

The next 4 segments contain the messianic prophecies of Isaiah 53.

CH. 53

STUDENT:

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ²For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, *There is* no beauty that we should desire Him. ³He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. (NKJV)

STUDENT:

Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and

afflicted. ⁵But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities;

The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way;

And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. (NKJV)

STUDENT:

He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth;

He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

⁸He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation?

For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

⁹And they made His grave with the wicked— But with the rich at His death,

Because He had done no violence, Nor *was any* deceit in His mouth. (NKJV)

STUDENT:

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put *Him* to grief.

When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see *His* seed, He shall prolong *His* days,
And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

¹¹ He shall see the labor of His soul, *and* be satisfied.

By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong,
Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors,
And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

The heritage of those who put their faith in the Lord.

CH. 54

STUDENT:

No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue *which* rises against you in judgment
you shall condemn.

This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* from Me," Says the LORD. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

A call to seek Him while you can.

CH. 55

STUDENT:

Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near.

⁷ Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts;

Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him;

And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.

⁸ "For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, Nor *are* your ways My ways," says the LORD.

⁹ "For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways,

And My thoughts than your thoughts. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

In chapter 58, God's holy fast.

CH. 58

STUDENT:

"*Is* this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness,

To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke?

⁷ *Is it* not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out;

When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily,

And your righteousness shall go before you; (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Our sin separates us from God.

CH. 59

STUDENT:

Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. ² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden *His* face from you, So that He will not hear. (NKJV)

=====

TEACHER:

The messianic prophecy Jesus quoted regarding Himself in Luke chapter 4.

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CH. 61

STUDENT:

"The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound;
² To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, ³ To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified." (NKJV)

=====

TEACHER:

The ultimate end-time salvation of the Jews.

=====

CH. 62

STUDENT:

Indeed the LORD has proclaimed To the end of the world:
"Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Surely your salvation is coming; Behold, His reward *is* with Him, And His work before Him.' "
¹² And they shall call them The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; And you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken. (NKJV)

=====

TEACHER:

A prayer of repentance.

=====

CH. 64

STUDENT:

But now, O LORD, You *are* our Father; We *are* the clay, and You our potter; And all we *are* the work of Your hand.
⁹ Do not be furious, O LORD, Nor remember iniquity forever; Indeed, please look—we all *are* Your people!
¹⁰ Your holy cities are a wilderness, Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation. (NKJV)

=====

TEACHER:

A prophecy proclaiming a gentile revival.

=====

CH. 65

STUDENT:

"I was sought by *those who* did not ask *for Me*; I was found by *those who* did not seek Me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am,' To a nation *that* was not called by My name. (NKJV)

=====

TEACHER:

The prophecy of a New Heavens and New Earth.

=====

STUDENT:

"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; For behold, I create Jerusalem *as* a rejoicing, And her people a joy. ¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem, And joy in My people; The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, Nor the voice of crying.... "It shall come to pass That before they call, I will answer; And while they are still speaking, I will hear. ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, The lion shall eat straw like the ox, And dust *shall be* the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain," Says the LORD. (NKJV)

=====

TEACHER:

The final chapter of the Book of Isaiah. God's desire for true worshippers.

=====

CH. 66

STUDENT:

"Heaven *is* My throne, And earth *is* My footstool. Where *is* the house that you will build Me? And where *is* the place of My rest? ² For all those *things* My hand has made, And all those *things* exist," Says the LORD. "But on this *one* will I look: On *him who is* poor and of a contrite spirit, And who trembles at My word... "For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me," says the LORD, "So shall your descendants and your name remain. ²³ And it shall come to pass *That* from one New Moon to another, And from one Sabbath to another, All flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the LORD. (NKJV)

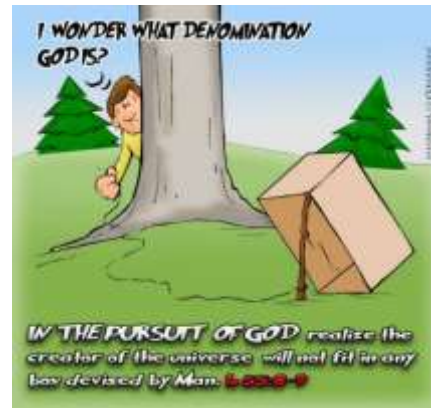
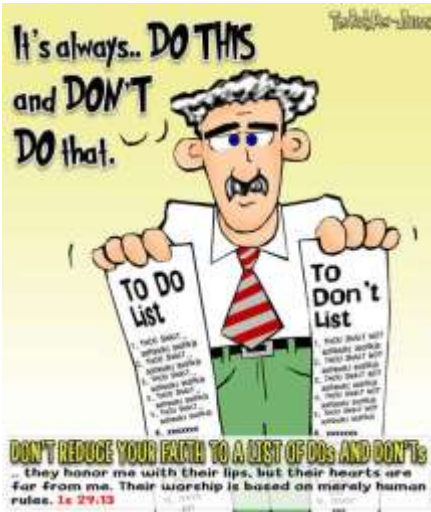
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NEXT LESSON JEREMIAH

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*"No weapon formed against you
shall prosper"*

Isaiah 54:17



MAJOR PROPHETS

M D R K J A H A Z O K L W H A
M Q B G X W D W O L B U U C N
M I K A I O H E J S J Z E A D
N E B U C H A D N E Z Z A R L
F H Q Z M C E O H I E Y D D A
H L A N B T I O A K D T A A M
R C Y I U L I H I T E N N H E
H O A T M A J E S O K E I S N
A D A H C E L E G J I V E F T
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S F I N R E N E M O H S J V T
O N H J I D M G J L A V T V I
J H E Z E K I A H Q X H Y I O
C V L B E C A N R U F I A Z N
I S A I A H M A H T O J S Z S

ABEDNEGO
AHAZ
AND
DANIEL
DEN
EZEKIEL
FURNACE
HEZEKIAH
ISAIAH
JEHOAHAZ
JEHOIACHIN
JEHOIAKIM

JEREMIAH
JOSIAH
JOTHAM
LAMENTATIONS
LIONS
MESHACH
NEBUCHADNEZZAR
SEVENTY
SHADRACH
STATUTE
UZZIAH
ZEDEKIAH

