

# ISAIAH I

## CHAPTERS 1 - 39

NOTE: For clarification, we suggest using the Amplified Bible or another translation. Use the King James Version to answer the questions.

The prophets of Israel were the great preachers of their time. Many people think of the prophets as spiritual men of the past who disappeared. But God still has great prophets today, boldly speaking out against the sins and evils of our generation and pointing toward future events. To be a prophet or to prophesy does not necessarily indicate a ministry concerned only with future events. Much of the prophet's ministry was to point out the sins and compromises in the "church", or Israel.

Understanding the historical setting of Isaiah's ministry is paramount to understanding his message. Although Israel was outwardly prospering, inwardly the nation was becoming corrupt, lawless, and apostate. The northern ten tribes, called Israel, had revolted and separated from the southern kingdom, Judah, primarily to whom Isaiah preached. The spiritual decay taking place within the nation was temporarily halted by revivals and godly rulers such as Hezekiah. But in general, Judah had begun a downhill slide which was ultimately to end in captivity.

1. For historical background, read II Kings 15-20 and II Chronicles 26-32; then check here. [ ]

### CHAPTER 1 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST

Remember as you read this chapter that to the **natural** eye things did not seem bad at all--but God sees the direction and intent of the heart. The Lord knew that His people were on a gradual downhill slide away from their high calling as His chosen people.

2. What did His children do? v. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Sin will eventually bring judgment. Israel, the northern kingdom, was judged through the invasion of the Assyrians during Isaiah's ministry. Judah, the southern kingdom, was judged approximately 100 years after Isaiah's ministry through the Babylonian armies. In verses 7-9 Isaiah foresaw the total destruction ahead for Judah. Spiritually, it is an analogy of the heart of Israel.

3. To what cities did Isaiah compare the nation of Judah? v. 10 \_\_\_\_\_

4. What did the Lord think of their services and temple offerings? vv. 11-14 \_\_\_\_\_

5. What did He say He would do when they lifted up their hands to praise Him? v. 15 \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the Lord's second command in verse 17? \_\_\_\_\_

Many times the Lord calls upon His people to use, seek, or exercise **judgment**. When God's people are not properly seeking after Him, they will begin to have gray areas in their approach to truth. God's truths are black and white. Sin is sin and right is right. Like Israel, the church today needs to seek judgment (justice).

7. What did the Lord want to do with the sins of His people? v. 18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What had the Lord's faithful city become? v. 21 \_\_\_\_\_
9. How would Zion (Jerusalem) be redeemed? v. 27 \_\_\_\_\_
10. What will happen to those who forsake the Lord? v. 28 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### CHAPTER 2:1-5. A study on THE MILLENNIUM

Verses 1-5 speak of a day of glorious restoration for Jerusalem and all Israel. Jerusalem (Zion) is seen as the center of the whole earth with the Lord himself teaching all nations from His throne. This will literally occur during the Millennium, when Jesus Christ returns to earth and sets up His rulership in Israel. This promise of God's rule upon the earth has always been Israel's hope of restoration. Through thousands of years of struggle and trial, Israel has looked toward this glorious day. Read Micah 4:1,2.

11. What will all the people say? v. 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. According to Zechariah 8:21-23, what will the Gentiles want of the Jews? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

All of Isaiah 11 concerns the glory of the Millennium. The Branch of 11:1 is the Lord Jesus. Answer the next three questions from Isaiah 11.

13. What kind of ruler will Jesus be? vv. 1-5 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. What will happen in the animal kingdom? vv. 6-9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Perfect peace, even among animals, will prevail over our planet which now is filled with wars, riots, crime and destruction.

15. Of what will the earth be filled? v. 9 \_\_\_\_\_  
Read chapter 12. This is a song of praise that the Jews will sing when this full restoration comes to their land.
16. What will be known in all the earth? v. 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
17. Why will the Jews cry out and shout? v. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Chapter 35 also concerns the beauty and glory of the Millennial kingdom. The creation around us which even now is so beautiful will be redeemed and restored to a greater beauty than we can imagine.

18. What will happen to the wilderness and deserts? 35:1,2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
19. What will happen to the afflicted? 35:3-6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
20. What will the highway be called? 35:8 \_\_\_\_\_
21. How does Isaiah see restored creation? 55:12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
22. What will happen to thorns and briars? 55:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

It is important that we look ahead at these chapters to gain a clear understanding of the millennial kingdom. Every prophet speaks of this day of hope and fulfillment for which every Jew has yearned. Throughout Isaiah are many passages describing the glorious Millennium.

#### **CHAPTER 2:6-9. A look at the present condition of Israel.**

During Isaiah's ministry, God's people were backslidden. Instead of relying on the Lord, Israel looked to other sources for help (v. 6).

Read the Lord's indictment against His people in 30:1-17 and answer the next seven questions from this passage.

23. What were God's people to use as a covering? v. 1 \_\_\_\_\_
24. What would the shadow of Egypt become to them? v. 3 \_\_\_\_\_
25. What would Egypt be to Israel? v. 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
26. What was Israel's strength? v. 7 \_\_\_\_\_  
God saw the rebellious and lying hearts of His people. They refused to hear the law of the Lord.
27. What were their hearts and actions saying to the seers and prophets? vv. 10,11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
28. What was to be their salvation and strength? v. 15 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
29. What did Israel do instead? vv. 16,17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This is good instruction for us when we are in the midst of trial and affliction, and we are tempted to seek help other than from the Lord.

30. Read 31:1-3. What does God point out about the Egyptians? \_\_\_\_\_

Another charge the Lord brings against Israel in chapter 2 is her attraction to, and love for, wealth and prosperity. The church today should take careful note of Israel's history and beware of too much emphasis on prosperity and material blessings.

31. Of what was the land filled? 2:7-9 \_\_\_\_\_

The Lord saw that in spirit, the lowly and the great were all bowing to their treasures. We think we are far beyond this sort of action, but many times God's people today can be controlled more by paychecks, bills and bank accounts than by God's Spirit.

32. Read the elaborate description of the woman in Isaiah's day in 3:16-26. What would they have instead of beauty? v. 24 \_\_\_\_\_

### CHAPTER 2:10-22. The Judgment of the Lord.

In Ecclesiastes 8:11, Solomon says, "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil." Because the Lord is longsuffering and merciful, men deceive themselves to think that perhaps God will not bring forth judgment and punishment for sin. But sin **will be judged**. The purpose of God sending men like Isaiah, Amos, Jeremiah, and others was to warn that if the people did not repent, judgment was coming. The immediate judgment for Israel was about 30 years away when the Assyrians would come to destroy the northern kingdom. The immediate judgment for Judah, the southern kingdom, was about 100 years away when the Babylonians would be used by God to destroy and carry His people away into captivity.

But the Lord knew that Israel would not fully repent and serve Him through these judgments; therefore the prophet many times transcends the coming judgment and looks forward into the great judgment of the Tribulation. Jeremiah calls the Tribulation "the time of Jacob's trouble." (Jeremiah 30:7) Although the Tribulation is the time when God pours out this wrath on the earth, it is specifically the time when He deals with Israel and brings His people to repentance so that He may usher in the glorious Millennial kingdom. Israel is longing for the Millennium when the nation will be restored, glorified, and exalted in the earth. But the Jews have no idea what terrible judgment they must pass through to bring them back to their God.

Answer the next two questions from chapter 2:10-18.

33. What is at the root of all sin according to verses 11, 12 and 17? \_\_\_\_\_

34. What will God totally abolish? v. 18 \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning in verse 19 the prophet transcends the present and jumps forward to the future judgment of the great Tribulation. Please watch as you read to see when the prophets "leap forward" by noting when they begin speaking of the "whole earth" or "final end" or any words that indicate something greater, higher or bigger than Israel's present situation.

Answer the next two questions from chapter 2:19-22.

35. Where will people go when this world-wide judgment falls? v. 19 \_\_\_\_\_

36. Why will they go there? v. 21 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
37. The book of Revelation describes in detail the great Tribulation. Read Revelation 6:12-17. What is described here? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHAPTERS 3 & 4 - READ THE CHAPTERS FIRST**

All of chapter 3 concerns the Lord's immediate judgment upon Judah.

38. What kind of leadership will Judah have? v. 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
In verse 6 we see the desperate cry for leadership. When a nation turns from God, good leadership cannot be found. We are experiencing this in America today because our nation has lost her respect and fear of God.
39. Why is Jerusalem ruined and Judah fallen? v. 8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
40. What was happening in backslidden Israel according to verse 12? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Today we see young people rioting and rebelling in schools and more women trying to enter into government.

Originally in the Hebrew text, there were no chapter divisions. By subject matter Isaiah 4:1 should be with chapter 3. The rest of chapter 4 speaks of the Millennium. Read it carefully.

41. How will the Lord wash away the filth and purge Jerusalem? v. 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHAPTER 5 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST**

Most of chapter 5 concerns the immediate judgment that is soon to fall on Israel and Judah. The first seven verses contain a parable of Israel as the Lord's vine which He cultivated to bear good fruit, but she brought forth only wild grapes.

42. What were all the things the Lord did for His vineyard to prepare it to bear good fruit? v. 2  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
43. What will He do because it bore no good fruit? vv. 5,6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
44. Why did God's people go into captivity? v. 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

45. What shall go down into hell? v. 14 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
46. What verse tells of Israel's completely backward values? \_\_\_\_\_
47. Describe the nations that God would use to bring judgment. vv. 26-30 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**CHAPTER 6 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST**

Through a vision, the Lord confirmed Isaiah's call to be Israel's prophet.

48. Above the throne Isaiah sees "seraphim", the plural of "seraph." Look up seraph in a standard dictionary and write the definition. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
49. How did Isaiah feel about himself in the presence of the Lord? v. 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
50. How did the Lord sanctify the prophet's mouth? vv. 6,7 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
51. What did the Lord tell Isaiah that his preaching would do to the people? v. 10 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
52. Seeing the hardship of such a calling, what did Isaiah ask? v. 11 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**CHAPTER 7 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST**

53. What two kings and countries joined together against Judah? v. 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

It is tragic to observe what the backsliding of Israel led her to do. The nation was divided into two kingdoms which warred against each other, forming alliances with heathen nations.

54. What was the word of the Lord to Ahaz, king of Judah, about this attack? vv. 4-7  
 \_\_\_\_\_
55. The Lord wanted Ahaz to ask for a sign so He could reveal Himself; but Ahaz, the backslidden king, had no faith to ask. The Lord, however, did give him a sign. What was it? v. 14  
 \_\_\_\_\_

This is the ultimate "sign" given to all men, the Lord Jesus Christ.

56. Verses 17-25 refer to the judgment coming to Israel (Ephraim) by Assyria. Why is Assyria called a razor that is **hired**? v. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### CHAPTER 8 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST

Isaiah had a son who was called by an awkward and long name which preached a message to all who heard it. When a man is in the ministry, his entire family is involved.

57. What does his son's name mean? (Look in your center reference or in other translations.) v. 1  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
58. Because Israel refused to partake in God's waters (Shiloah), what would the Lord do? vv. 7,8  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
59. When many things come against us, just as many nations would come against Israel, whom should we fear? v. 13 \_\_\_\_\_
60. What will people find if they look to the earth for help instead of looking to the Lord? v. 22  
\_\_\_\_\_

### CHAPTER 9 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST

61. What would those who endured the darkness of judgment see? v. 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
62. Who is the light and this child who is born? v. 6 \_\_\_\_\_
63. Jesus will personally rule and govern the earth when He returns. How long will His reign last? v. 7 \_\_\_\_\_
64. Verses 8-21 concern the judgment coming for Israel. Why did the Lord smite His people? v. 13  
\_\_\_\_\_

### CHAPTER 10 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST

65. What was the staff or weapon that was in the hand of the Assyrian armies? v. 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
66. What charge did the Lord give Assyria in order to bring judgment to His people? v. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Lord is in control of all things to work out His purposes. Man is responsible for his actions, but God will even use man's intent to do evil. The Assyrians destroyed and captured the northern kingdom of Israel, but they became proud and vain, lusting to conquer other nations. (vv. 7-11)

67. When the Lord had performed His will through Assyria, whom would He punish? v. 12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. What is the Lord's illustration about the axe and saw? v. 15 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
69. Why should the Lord's people have been unafraid of the Assyrians? vv. 24-27 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
70. When Israel rises to her glory in the Millennium, what will finally destroy the yoke of oppression? v. 27 \_\_\_\_\_
71. Chapters 11 and 12 were covered in the section about the Millennium. Read them again and check here when you have done so. [ ]

### CHAPTERS 13 & 14 - READ THE CHAPTERS FIRST

These chapters concern the judgment and destruction of the heathen nation Babylon which did not occur until nearly 200 years later. This message was one of hope and comfort for Judah because the Babylonians were Judah's worst enemies. It was the Babylonians whom God used to punish Judah and lead them into captivity. The "sanctified ones" speak of the Medo-Persians. God allowed them to rise to power, and He used them to conquer and punish Babylon. Some of these verses (vv. 6-14 and 19-22) refer to a future event. The prophet, in speaking of the immediate judgment of Babylon, leaps forward to the great city of Babylon that will be rebuilt and then destroyed in the end times. This is recorded in Revelation 18.

72. I have read Isaiah 13 and Revelation 18. [ ]

Through the prophets, the Lord uses present circumstances as a sort of launching pad to look into similar future events. In chapter 14 the prophet is given a glimpse into a past event which took place before man was ever created. Isaiah begins speaking about the wicked king of Babylon and then launches into a revelation of the greatest enemy of all, Lucifer. We are allowed to see how and why this great angel sinned and became Satan, the destroyer of mankind.

73. Summarize what Satan said in his heart that made him fall from his place in heaven. vv. 13,14  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

74. What two nations does Isaiah see receiving judgment? vv. 24-32 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### CHAPTERS 15, 16 & 17 - READ THE CHAPTERS FIRST

These chapters concern judgment upon Moab and Damascus. Look at the maps in the back of your Bible and find these places.

75. When you have read these three chapters and looked at a map of these places, check here. [ ]



## CHAPTERS 18 & 19 - READ THE CHAPTERS FIRST

These chapters concern the judgment of Ethiopia and Egypt.

76. When you have read these two chapters, write out one verse that is meaningful to you. \_\_\_\_\_

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## CHAPTERS 20 & 21 - READ THE CHAPTERS FIRST

Chapter 20 describes further judgment upon Egypt and Ethiopia through the Assyrian king, Sargon. These messages were preached to Israel and Judah for warning and encouragement--warning because of God's seriousness about sin, and encouragement that the Lord would judge Israel's enemies. In chapter 20, Isaiah is asked to do a strange thing. Some commentators believe that Isaiah had to walk completely naked; others believe he wore a loincloth. Whichever it was, Isaiah was a dedicated and holy man to obey God in this way. In a day when hearts are hardened by sin and ears shut to truth, the Lord will call upon His servants to preach the gospel with great demonstration.

Chapter 21:1-10 is a prophecy concerning the very thoughts of Belshazzar the night the Medes and Persians took over his kingdom of Babylon. Also read chapter 5 of Daniel.

77. What are Belshazzar's feelings as expressed in Isaiah 21:4? \_\_\_\_\_

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## CHAPTER 22 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST

The valley of vision is the city of Jerusalem. Verses 1-14 are descriptive of an attack by the Assyrians during King Hezekiah's reign. Although the inhabitants of Jerusalem were in great fear of the besieging armies, the invasion never occurred. Read Isaiah 36 and 37 which record the history of that event.

Answer the next four questions from chapters 36 and 37.

78. What did Rabshakeh say about trusting in the Lord to deliver Jerusalem? 36:13-18 \_\_\_\_\_

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79. What did King Hezekiah do when he received the threatening letter from the Assyrian messengers? 37:1,14,15 \_\_\_\_\_

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80. How were the Assyrian armies finally defeated? 37:36 \_\_\_\_\_

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81. How did Sennacherib die? 37:38 \_\_\_\_\_

The remainder of chapter 22 concerns the selfishness of Shebna and his replacement by the noble Eliakim. This is a picture of the selfish and corrupt ruler Antichrist who will be replaced by the Lord Jesus. Jesus is the true "nail" that everything will hang upon. Those who hang upon the false nail will be cut down.

**CHAPTER 23 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST**

The prophet preaches judgment upon the great cities of Tyre and Zidon.

82. Find these two cities on a map and check here. [ ]

These cities had become vain and confident of their strength, and they had abused Israel. The Lord detests the pride of man, and verse 9 is a summary of the Lord's dealing with all the nations and cities of the world.

83. Rewrite Isaiah 23:9 in your own words. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Verse 18 tells us that during the Millennium these cities will dedicate their goods to the Lord.

**CHAPTERS 24, 25 & 26 - READ THE CHAPTERS FIRST**

Chapter 24 contains a prophecy with a twofold application. First, the prophet is speaking of the imminent destruction of Jerusalem as retribution for her wickedness. Secondly, the prophecy describes the utter ruin and desolation of the earth after the Tribulation.

84. Check here when you have carefully read chapter 24. [ ]

In chapter 25, the prophet praises God for His faithfulness to finally judge and destroy Israel's enemies. No other city will be glorified and restored like Jerusalem where the Lord will make a feast for all other nations during the Millennium.

85. Which verse tells about the rich feast He will prepare in Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_

86. What will happen to death? v. 8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Chapter 26 is a song of praise sung during the Millennium. It also reveals what will be taking place in the hearts of the Jewish people during the great Tribulation when they will learn to trust and seek the Lord again.

87. How will the Jews learn to stay in perfect peace? v. 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Verses 17 and 18 show that the Jews realized they could never bring forth any deliverance through their own efforts.

88. What does the Lord promise for the seeking Jews during the Tribulation? vv. 20,21 Also read Revelation 7:1-8. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## CHAPTER 27 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST

Verse 1 speaks of the judgment of Satan. Verses 2-6 speak of the Lord's care for His people.

89. When Israel is rooted in God once again, what will happen? v. 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Verse 7-11 speak of the dealings and purposes of God through His judgment.

## CHAPTER 28 - READ THE CHAPTER FIRST

Verses 1-8 speak of the defiled northern kingdom of Israel. Verses 9-13 tell of the peoples' unwillingness to learn from the Lord. Verses 10 and 13 show that they kept learning the same things over and over. Verse 11 refers to the Assyrians who had a strange language that was a mixture of many languages. This means that the only way Israel would be taught was through judgment. Verses 14-22 speak of Israel's false hope in Egypt. It is also a prophecy of the greatest false covenant Israel will ever make--the treaty or covenant with the Antichrist. Verses 23-29 tell of the various ways a farmer treats his soil and crops. It illustrates the careful, knowledgeable ways of the Lord.

## CHAPTERS 29, 30 & 31 - READ THE CHAPTERS FIRST

These chapters speak of judgment on Jerusalem and her false hope in Egypt for strength.

90. Some verses in these chapters tell of the glory of the Millennium. Look for them as you read and write two verse references here. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## CHAPTERS 32, 33, 34 & 35 - READ THE CHAPTERS FIRST

The beginning of chapter 32 speaks of Christ's Millennial reign. The rest of the chapter concerns judgment. In 33:1 the Lord prophesies of final judgment upon Israel's enemies.

91. When the earth lies waste through judgment, what will the Lord do? 33:7-10 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Verses 20-24 concern the Millennium. The "galley with oars" and "gallant ship" represent human strength and ways. In verse 23 we see that man's ways will be of no use when the Lord rules the earth. Chapter 34 is a terrible and bloody picture of judgment to come. Verses 2-6 are a prophecy of the battle of Armageddon. The desolation at the end of the Tribulation is pictured. Chapter 35 is a glorious picture of the Millennium that follows the Tribulation.

## CHAPTERS 36, 37, 38 & 39 - READ THE CHAPTERS FIRST

We have already studied the story of the Assyrian invasion during Hezekiah's reign in chapters 36 and 37. Read these chapters again, and then answer the following questions from chapters 38 and 39.

92. What sign was given to Hezekiah of his healing? 38:8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

93. What did Hezekiah do when the king of Babylon came to visit him? 39:2 \_\_\_\_\_

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In the beginning of his reign, Hezekiah initiated one of the greatest revivals in Israel. But in his later years, pride filled his heart and he no longer trusted the Lord completely. The full story is found in II Chronicles 29-32. Read these chapters.

This completes Part I of the study of Isaiah. To retain the continuity of this study, we encourage you to begin Part II as soon as possible.

I have answered all questions to the best of my ability.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_