

## *Introduction to Isaiah, Part Two*

### **I. Review**

- A. The Prophet in Israel
  - 1. Intercessor
  - 2. Seer
  - 3. Spokesman
  - 4. Often gives signs (note Isaiah 7)
- B. Messiah as Prophet – Deuteronomy 18:15-18; Acts 3; John 6
- C. The Church as Prophetic People: Acts 2:16 (Numbers 11:28-29; Joel 2)

### **II. Isaiah and the Context of the Whole Bible**

- A. We tend to think of Old Testament and New Testament as primary divisions. What we need to really grasp is the unfolding of the story as a whole.
  - 1. Creation, Commission, Inheritance in Land, Fall, Exile, Promise of Restoration/Salvation – Genesis 1-3
  - 2. Creation of Israel (Family of Abraham), Commission, Inheritance in the Land, Fall, Exile, Promise of Restoration – Genesis – Malachi.
  - 3. Thus the first chapters of the OT are a microcosm of the whole.
- B. The Story's Biggest Emblems
  - 1. Creation – Commission - Eden
  - 2. Exodus – Giving of the Law - Land of Promise
- C. Isaiah's Place
  - 1. The Prophet is in ministry in the middle of the story: 783-687 BC, from Uzziah to Hezekiah, kings of Judah
  - 2. Thus he stands at the center of the unfolding story
    - a. He sees the present in terms of Israel's initial call.
    - b. He calls Israel to repent and return to that call.
    - c. He looks ahead and sees the coming exile and restoration.
    - d. He describes that restoration in terms of a new creation and a new exodus.
      - 1. New Creation: Isaiah 51:1-3
      - 2. New Exodus: Isaiah 40:1-5
        - Note the significance of the word "way"
        - Exodus 23:20; John 14:6; Acts 9:2; 19:9; 22:4
        - Isaiah 42:16; 43:16-19 (A greater exodus!); 49:11-12
- Creation – Fall – Abraham – Promised Land – David/Solomon/Kings - Isaiah-
- Fall – Exile - Captivity – New Exodus – New Creation/Land – Messiah King

**III. *The Place of Isaiah in the New Testament – where the story reaches its fullness in Jesus Christ, foretold by Isaiah the Seer.***

- A. Matthew 1:20-23 – Immanuel, God with us
- B. Matthew 4:12-17 – From darkness to light (Isaiah 9: 60:1-3)
- C. Matthew 8:16-17 – The Messiah as Physician
- D. Mark 1:2-3 – the Way Prepared (in Jesus is the new exile and new creation; Isaiah’s prophecies of the restoration do NOT find their ultimate fulfillment in Israel’s return from Babylonian captivity. This is absolutely vital to understand if the rest of the NT is to make sense.)
- E. Luke 2:25-32 – Fulfilling the hope of Israel (Isaiah 9:1 ff; 49:6 ff)
- F. Luke 4:16 ff – The One who brings the Gospel (Isaiah 61:1-4; 52:7)
- G. John 1:19 ff – the Voice of Preparation
- H. Acts 8:30-35 – To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?
- I. Romans 15:3, 12, 19-21 – The basis of Paul’s Mission

**IV. *For Next Week***

- A. Consider the Overall Structure and Message of Isaiah 1-12 \*
- B. Read chapter one carefully and write down questions; note especially the issue of God’s displeasure with Judah’s worship. Why is this so? Compare with Isaiah 29 if time allows.\*
  - Israel’s disobedience and coming desolation (chapter 1:1-31)
  - Future restoration of Jerusalem under Yahweh (chapter 2-4)
  - Warning of Judah’s Punishment (chapter 5 – the Song of the Vineyard)
  - *The Call of Isaiah* (chapter 6)
  - Warning of Judah’s Punishment (chapter 7-8:18)
  - Future Restoration of Jerusalem under the Messiah (8:19-11:9)
  - Israel’s Obedience and Coming Salvation (chapter 11:10-12:6)