



Isaiah – Study Guide



Bible Reading (Other chapters may be read for extra credit/benefit)	Textbook Reading (Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)
Isaiah	Ch. 25
ch. 1 ch. 6 7:10-25 9:1-7 ch. 25 ch. 26 ch. 28 ch. 40 42:1-9 44:6-23 45:20-46:13 52:13-53:12 ch. 55 ch. 59 ch. 61 ch. 65	☐ Background of the Book of Isaiah
	Ch. 26 ☐ The Servant Passages in Isaiah 40-66 ☐ The Suffering Servant

Study Guide for Isaiah

Chapter 1

- How does God describe the nation? What had they done? What was the consequence of that highlighted in the first section of this chapter? What can we learn from this? How does this set the tone for the book of Isaiah as a whole?
- What does God say to the leaders about sacrifices? What reason does He give? What command does He give? What offer and promise does He give to the people? What warning does He give to the people? How do these set the tone for the book of Isaiah as a whole?
- How does God describe the city? What had happened to it? Why? What did God promise to do about this? What specifically will happen? What is the significance of this?

Chapter 6

- What did Isaiah see in the temple? What is the significance of these things? What were the seraphs proclaiming? Why is that important?
- How did Isaiah respond to this vision? What reason did he give? Why do you think he reacted in this way? What does this tell us about God? What does this tell us about Isaiah and the society in which he lived? What difference does this make?
- How did God deal with Isaiah's guilt? What language did God use to describe this? What can we learn from this?
- What challenge/invitation did God make? How did Isaiah respond? What specifically was Isaiah told to do and say? What did that mean for the people of that time? What can we learn from this today?

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- What question did Isaiah ask about this commission? How did God respond? How would you describe the overall message of this commission? What hope do you see included in this message? Why does this matter?

Chapter 7:10-25

- What did the Lord say to Ahaz? How did he respond? What message did Isaiah give in response to this? What was the tone of this message?
- What “sign” did Isaiah promise would be given? What is the significance of this? What is the significance of the name given? What would happen within a certain time period? Would you consider this good news? Why or why not?
- What did God promise Assyrian and Egypt would do? What did God promise to do to the land? What message of hope is also included in this? What does this demonstrate about God’s character and plans?

Chapter 9:1-7

- What particular regions of Israel were highlighted in this section? What was said about them? How were they described? What would happen to them in the future? What explains this change? Why is this significant?
- Describe the promised rejoicing of this section in your own words. What would happen to the people so that they would rejoice?
- What is the reason given why the people would rejoice? How is this child described? How are these descriptions connected to promises seen earlier in the Old Testament? How would that be accomplished? How are these promises ultimately fulfilled? How should we respond?

Chapter 25

- What did Isaiah, the author, promise to do in this section? What reasons did he give for this? What historical event(s) caused this? What does this tell us about God’s character and plans? How should we respond?
- What does this say about how God will treat the genuinely needy? What does He protect them from? How? What does this demonstrate about God’s character and plans? What difference does this make?
- What does this chapter promise God is preparing for all peoples? How is this described? What will God do? What will He oppose and destroy? What will He protect and provide? Why is this significant?
- How will people respond in that day? What will they say about God and His ways? What does this say about how God’s people should think and live? What does this say about what God’s enemies should expect? What difference does this make?

Chapter 26

- Describe the content of this song in your own words. What does it emphasize? Why? How does this express an appropriate response to what God was doing at that point in history? How does this apply to us today?
- What does this chapter tell us about how God’s people should think and act? What reasons are given? How is this contrasted with the prideful and lofty?
- How does this song demonstrate the heart attitude of the godly? How can we cultivate and imitate this mindset? How is this contrasted with the mindset of the wicked? What should we learn from this?

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- How is the One True God contrasted with the false idols and rulers? What did each of these do? What was the result of these things?
- How does this chapter describe the failures of Israel? What did they fail to do? Why is this significant? What hope and promise was given in response to this? What difference does this make?

Chapter 28

- What does God describe as a wreath or a flower? What does He say will happen to it? Why?
- What will happen to the remnant of God's people? How does this chapter describe this? What is the significance of this?
- How does God describe the priests and prophets in this chapter? How does that compare with the way they should have acted? What does this demonstrate about the spiritual state of the people Isaiah was speaking to? Why does this matter?
- How did God say He would speak to this people? What do you think this means? Is this a good thing? Why or why not?
- What did the rulers of Jerusalem say, according to Isaiah? How did God respond to that mindset? How are these things connected? What can we learn from this?
- How could the people respond to the "cornerstone"? What would be the result? What does this demonstrate about God's character and ways? How should we respond?
- How do you think the people responded to this message? Why?
- What is the point of the farmer plowing? What did that say to the people of that time? What difference does this make?

Chapter 40

- How does this chapter begin? How does that compare with the general message of the earlier parts of this book? How do these verses explain this change of tone? What does this foreshadow about the content of the rest of this chapter and book? How should we respond?
- What does the voice calling say? What does this promise?
- What does the second voice command Isaiah to cry out? What is the point of that message? How does it apply?
- What was the bringer of good tidings commanded to do? What is the content of his message? Why? What does this tell us about the character of God and His plans for His people at that point in history? What difference does this make?
- What is the point of the questions about the water and the dust? How does Isaiah apply this to God's knowledge? What do these things demonstrate about God? What should we learn from this? How should we respond?
- What is the point of comparing nations to a drop or dust? What does this tell us about God? Why is this important?
- What is the point of contrasting God with idols? What does this tell us about God? What does this demonstrate about the foolishness of idolatry? What is the significance of this?
- What is the point made by describing God's relation to the earth, the heavens, and all the peoples of the earth? Why does Isaiah make that point? How does God apply this point in the questions He asked?

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- What complaint did the people make against God? How do all the preceding verses give an answer to that accusation? How should we respond?
- What final things does this chapter say about God at its end? How does this apply to His relationship to His people? How was this encouragement to the people of Isaiah's day? What difference does this make in our day?

Chapter 42:1-9

- How does God describe His servant in this passage? What will the servant do? What will the servant NOT do? What is the significance and point of these things? What does this tell us about God's character and plan through the servant?
- How is God described in this passage? What is the point of this description? What does this tell us about what God says and does in this passage? What should we learn from this?
- What does God say to the servant in this passage? What does that tell us about the character and mission of the servant?
- How does God describe Himself at the end of this passage? What does this tell us about His character? Why did God make this point in this passage? How should we respond?

Chapter 44:6-23

- How does God describe Himself at the beginning of this passage? What point was He making? What challenge did He give? Why?
- What encouragement did God give His people based on His character? What is the reason He gave for this encouragement? How is this related to the rest of what God said in this passage? What difference does this make?
- What does God say about idols in this passage? What does He say about those who make and worship them? What is the point about the description of the way an idol is made? How does this mock those who make idols? How does this demonstrate the foolishness of putting our trust in man-made things? How does this warning apply in our lives?
- What does God challenge His people to remember? Why? What application does God make of these things? How does this passage command us to respond? Well, what are you waiting for?

Chapter 45:20-Chapter 46:13

- What challenge does God make to idols and idolaters? Can they do this? What does this demonstrate about God as compared to idols? What point was God making? What application did He give? How should we respond?
- What does it say that God swore? How do you think this will happen? What does this imply we should be doing in the meantime?
- How does God speak about the idols of Babylon? What point does He make?
- What promise does God give to the faithful in Israel? What assurance does He give for this promise? Why is this significant?
- How does God speak about idols and how they are made? What point was He making? Why do you think He repeated this point so much in this portion of the Bible in that historical situation?

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- What did God say about Himself? What point was He making? Why do you think He repeated this point so much in this portion of the Bible in that historical situation? How should we respond?
- What does God say about His plans and purposes? What point does He make? Why do you think He repeated this point so much in this portion of the Bible in that historical situation? How does this apply to us today? How will you respond?

Chapter 52:13-Chapter 53:12

- How does this passage describe the servant? What does the servant do? What does the servant experience? Why? How can we summarize all these descriptions together?
- How does it say that people and nations will respond to the servant? Why? What does this tell us about the character and ministry of the servant?
- How does this describe the beauty and reception of the servant? Why do you think it describes him in this way? What does this tell us about the character and ministry of the servant?
- How does this passage describe what happened to the servant? What do you think this is talking about? Why do you think it describes this in this way? Why do you think that happened? What is the point of this? What difference does this make?
- How does it say that the servant responded to this experience? Why do you think he responded in this way? What was the result of all of this? What is the significance of this?
- How does it say the Lord responded to what the servant experienced? Why? How does this influence other people beside the servant? What difference does this make?
- What do you think this entire passage is speaking about? How do you think this passage was fulfilled? What reason do you have for this conclusion?

Chapter 55

- What does God invite people to do in this passage? Is this to be taken literally, or do you think He is symbolically speaking of something else? What is this referring to? Why does this matter?
- What point was God making by mentioning a covenant and David? How is this connected with the promise of a witness to the people? How does this impact the nations? Why?
- How does God command people to respond in this section? Why? What assurance does He give His people?
- What point does God make about the effectiveness of His Word? What difference does this make for us today?
- What promises does God make to His people at the end of this chapter? What is the significance of this? How does it apply?

Chapter 59

- What does the beginning of this chapter say is NOT the problem? What does it say IS the problem? What specifics does it give to describe this problem? What is the significance of this?

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- What results does this chapter describe from the problem it describes? How does it describe these results? What point is it making?
- How does this chapter describe the relation of the problem to God? What difference does this make? What can we learn from this? How should we respond?
- How does this chapter say that God dealt with this problem? What part did His people play? What was the result of this? What is the significance of this? How does this apply?

Chapter 61

- What is the speaker anointed to do, as described in this chapter? What would it look like when these things are accomplished? How will this impact the people who receive these things?
- What will happen to the people who receive these things? What will they think and do?
- How does this say that the experience of God's people will change? Why does this matter?
- What reasons does God give for doing this? What does this tell us about God's character and plan? What difference does this make?
- How does the author respond to this message? Why? How should we respond?

Chapter 65

- What did God do? To Whom? What happened when He did? Why?
- How are God's people described in this section? What can we learn from this? How does it say that God responds to this? What can we learn from this? How does it apply?
- What is the point of the saying about the grapes? How does this illustrate what God promised to do? What does God promise to do? Who will benefit from this?
- What does God promise for the people who forsake Him? What reasons does He give? How should we respond?
- How does God contrast His servants with those who are unfaithful? What will each group experience? What difference does this make?
- What does God promise that He will create? What is the meaning and significance of this? What will happen when He does this? How is this described? What is the significance of this? How should we respond?

Study Guide for Textbook chapter 25

Background of the Book of Isaiah

Isaiah the Man

- What point does the textbook make about the names of Isaiah's sons? What does this tell us about Isaiah's mindset?
- To whom did Isaiah primarily first speak the messages in this book? What does this tell us about the content of this book? Why does this matter?

Isaiah's times

- How is Isaiah's ministry connected with the fall of the Northern Kingdom? What implications does this have for the message given to the Southern Kingdom?

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Authorship and Date

- What does the textbook say about the authorship and date of this book?
- Feel free to examine the section in chapter 26 if you would like more information on this issue.

Themes of the Book of Isaiah

- What is the significance of a “remnant” for the message of Isaiah? How is this remnant different from the rest of Israel? Why is this important?
- How does the idea of God’s sovereignty influence the book of Isaiah? In what ways is this shown in the book? How should we respond?
- What possible identities of the “servant” does the textbook list? What does the servant do? What can we learn from this?
- What is the significance of the term “Holy One of Israel”? How does Isaiah use this phrase? What does this demonstrate about God’s character and actions? How should we respond?
- What does the book of Isaiah say about the Messiah? What difference does this make?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter

Study Guide for Textbook chapter 26

The Servant Passages of Isaiah 40-66

- To what or whom does the word “servant” refer, according to the textbook? What does the servant do? What are the servant passages?
- What is the unifying focus of the servant passages? What does this teach us about the servant? What does this challenge us to behave? How should we respond?

Isaiah’s Message Continues

The Suffering Servant

- How does the textbook describe the characteristics and experiences of the suffering servant? What stood out to you from this description? Why is that significant? How does it apply?
- What are the three possible interpretations of the servant passage? What are the reasons given for and/or against each interpretation? What conclusion does the textbook reach? What difference does this make?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter