

# His Word in Our Hearts

~ February 2021 ~

“Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.”  
Isaiah 12:2 (ESV)

## Daily Bible Reading

1	Isaiah 1-2	Psalm 24
2	Isaiah 3-5	Psalm 25
3	Isaiah 6-8	Psalm 26
4	Isaiah 9-10	Psalm 27
5	Isaiah 11-13	Psalm 28
6	Isaiah 14-16	Psalm 29
7	Isaiah 17-20	Psalm 30
8	Isaiah 21-23	Psalm 31
9	Isaiah 24-26	Psalm 32
10	Isaiah 27-28	Psalm 33
11	Isaiah 29-30	Psalm 34
12	Isaiah 31-33	Psalm 35
13	Isaiah 34-36	Psalm 36
14	Isaiah 37-39	Psalm 37:1-23
15	Isaiah 40-41	Psalm 37:23-40
16	Isaiah 42-43	Psalm 38
17	Isaiah 44-45	Psalm 39
18	Isaiah 46-48	Psalm 40
19	Isaiah 49-50	Psalm 41
20	Isaiah 51-53	Psalm 42
21	Isaiah 54-55	Psalm 43
22	Isaiah 56-58	Psalm 44
23	Isaiah 59-61	Psalm 45
24	Isaiah 62-64	Psalm 46
25	Isaiah 65-66	Psalm 47

## Reading Isaiah:

For as much as we love the Bible, some of it can be intimidating. That is true of Isaiah. It is long, complicated, and seems far removed from us. But persevere, there is much here for us.

Isaiah was one of Israel’s greatest prophets. He was married and had at least two sons. He lived in Jerusalem and prophesied from 740 to 680 BC during the reigns of four kings in Israel, Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (1:1). He prophesied during times of tumultuous change, the decline and fall of the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the spiritual decline of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Isaiah pleaded again and again for Judah to wake up.

He makes incredible, huge and sweeping prophesies of things in the future: the exile of Judah under Babylon, the return from exile under Cyrus, the pagan king of Persia, the promise of a coming Messiah who would die for His people.

### Why read Isaiah?

***Read Isaiah because it is like a mini-Bible.***

Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury in the 13th century AD, the man who established our chapter divisions in our Bibles, maybe was having a little fun making Isaiah 66 chapters equaling the 66 books of the Bible. The first 39 chapters are like the OT and the second 27 chapters are like the NT (matching the 39 books of OT and 27 books of NT). Isaiah 1-39 is about God’s judgment on Israel and 40-66 is about God’s deliverance.

***Read Isaiah because it’s important in understanding the NT, only Psalms is quoted more often in the NT.***

Perhaps more than any other OT book, writers and believers in the NT looked back at Isaiah and saw Jesus as the fulfillment of the foretold Messiah, the suffering servant who saves us from our sin.

***Read Isaiah because it exposes idolatry and idolatry is deadly.***

Worshipping blind, deaf, and dumb idols makes us blind, deaf, and dumb. Israel flirted with idols which led to her destruction, as all idols do.

We need to hear Isaiah’s profound, sustained attack on idolatry because we’re all in a sustained war against our own idols. It’s easy for us to see that the totems of ancient cultures were lifeless, but we’re much more easily deceived when it comes to contemporary promises of power, wealth, pleasure and security. We cry out to these gods, but they don’t answer or save us (Isaiah 46:7).

## **Reading Isaiah, cont.**

### ***Read Isaiah to see the Gospel according to Isaiah.***

Isaiah contains one of the clearest expressions of the gospel of Jesus Christ in all the Old Testament. It includes the full scope of His life: the announcement of His coming (Isaiah 40:3–5), His virgin birth (7:14), His proclamation of the good news (61:1), His sacrificial death (52:13–53:12), and His return to claim His own (60:2–3). This is not just the point of Isaiah, but the point of the entire Bible.

As you read the first 39 chapters with the strong theme of judgment remember the knowledge of judgment is necessary to show us our great need for salvation. When we turn our backs on God in rebellion, we must be called back to Him.

### ***Read Isaiah to see the magnificent glory of God and the greatness of His mercy and grace.***

In Isaiah 6 His glory is revealed, pure, exalted, terrifying, yet atoning, forgiving. Throughout the book we see God's glory revealed in his sovereignty, and His wisdom as Creator and Judge and redeemer.

**Isaiah 12:2** Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

### **Outline:**

Isaiah 1-5, summary of the sins of Judah.

Isaiah 6, the call of Isaiah as a prophet of God.

Isaiah 7-12, God rules over His people.

Isaiah 13-39, God rules over all nations, including Judah's fall (39).

Isaiah 40-55, prophecy of Israel's future deliverance from exile.

Isaiah 56-66, God's call for the people to prepare to meet God and be restored.