



"For thus says the One who is high and lifted up,
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:

"I dwell in the high and holy place,
and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly,
and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Isaiah 57:15

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Isaiah 55:8-9

BEHOLDING GOD

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Introduction to Isaiah

Studying Isaiah is like a steep climb up a high mountain, but the view at the top is vast, majestic – and well worth the climb! The incomparable view Isaiah invites us to behold is God himself. The book's central theme is the revelation of God, high and lifted up in all his glory, splendor, greatness and holiness. Isaiah defines everything else in relation to God, who is at the center of it all.

As we begin the study of Isaiah, we must always begin with God and ask, what does God say about himself in this passage of Scripture? A high view of God should also give us a right view of ourselves.

The book of Isaiah is written to and about the people of Israel, specifically, the Southern Kingdom of Judah. After the reign of King Solomon, Israel was divided into two kingdoms: the Northern Kingdom, called Israel, and the Southern Kingdom, called Judah. Judah is sometimes referred to as Israel, as is the case in the book of Isaiah.

Through the people of Israel, Isaiah shows us a picture of ourselves as sinners in need of a savior. Although they remain God's covenant people, Israel was often rebellious, idolatrous and obstinate. Isaiah announces judgments against Israel for their persistent sin in order to bring them to repentance. He reveals God's divine calling to his people: to serve as a light to the nations for the glory of God. Most importantly, Isaiah proclaims God's greater plan to redeem and ultimately restore all who put their faith in Jesus Christ.

Prophecies of Isaiah

What would it be like to stand on top of a mountain looking ahead at a mountain range in the distance, peak upon peak appearing to be on top of one another? That is what it was like for the prophet Isaiah. He saw future events that appeared close together but would actually take place years, even centuries, apart. Isaiah wrote about these future events simultaneously as if they had all already happened – hundreds of years before any of these prophecies were fulfilled.

Isaiah prophesies about the Assyrian conquest and fall of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, predicts God's judgment on the Southern Kingdom of Judah that led to their exile in Babylon and the destruction of Jerusalem. Isaiah also foretold of Israel's eventual deliverance from exile and future restoration. Most importantly, throughout much of the book of Isaiah, he prophesied about the first and second coming of Jesus Christ. (See the following Scriptures for further study: 2 Kings 15-20; 25; 2 Chronicles 26-32; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7; 11:1-9; 52:13-53:12.)

Structure of Isaiah

The book of Isaiah is divided into two sections: Chapters 1-39 and chapters 40-66. Our study will focus on the second half of Isaiah.

I. Chapters 1-39: God's Judgment and Grace

Although God must purify his people through judgment, he has an overruling purpose of salvation through grace. God uses the neighboring nations as instruments of chastisement to bring his people to repentance. In the midst of God's judgment, he graciously gives hope of the coming Messiah.

II. Chapters 40-66: God's Comfort and Hope

Chapters 40-66 emphasize redemption and restoration. Isaiah also gives a message of comfort and hope to the Jewish exiles in Babylon. God would rescue them and bring restoration to the nation. But the greatest message is salvation. Isaiah prophesied the coming Messiah who would come to die for sinners and will return to earth to establish his eternal kingdom.

How to Study Isaiah

As you study Isaiah, you will discover messages of hope intertwined with words of judgment. You may read passages you find unsettling or unclear. Don't get "lost in the weeds" over historical details or passages you find confusing. The key is to concentrate on God, his character and purposes. Look for the beauty of who God is.

- Take time to pray before you study, asking God to speak to you through His Word and give you clarity, understanding and revelation.
- Read the passage of Scripture repeatedly throughout the week. Challenge yourself to re-read it every day.
- Answer the study questions from what you read in Scripture alone. Take time
 to look up the additional verses provided in your lessons to shed more light
 on the passage you are studying.
- Resist the temptation to run to commentaries or Bible footnotes. Don't miss
 what God wants to teach you through his Word. Remember: Scripture is its
 own best commentary.
- When you don't understand, pray and ask God to help you. Meditating
 on Scripture through prayer and reading over and over is the key to
 understanding.
- Always put the unclear passage in the light of what you know to be clear and true. Scripture never contradicts itself.
- Keep in mind that Isaiah is a unique book of prophecy written in poetic form.
 Study with patience and persistence and remember that ALL Scripture is God-breathed and profitable.
- Commit to make this study of Isaiah a priority. The more time you put into the study of God's Word, the more you will get out of it. Isaiah will enlarge your view of God. In the end, you will behold who the God of the Bible truly is.

Things to Look for

when making observations in Scripture:

- Emphasized
- Repeated
- Lists
- Compare & Contrast

- Commands & Warnings
- Grammar
- Questions you have about the text

Get a Running Start

Each lesson in our study begins by asking you to meditate on the passage of Scripture you are studying that week. But what does it mean to meditate on Scripture? How do you make observations about a passage in the Bible? And why is this an important place to start your study of God's Word?

Making Observations in Scripture

Being an observer of God's Word is no different than sitting on a bench at a busy park and noticing all the people there. Who are they? What are they doing? Who is with them? How are they relating to one another? Why are they there? When you take time to look and listen, there are so many things you can observe. The same is true of God's Word.

Observation is the act and art of noticing details. In its simplest form, it's asking these seven basic questions: who, what, when, where, why, how and wherefore? And with that initial understanding, we can be effective observers of God's Word if we are patient and disciplined to do so. If you are in a hurry or are just trying to complete a lesson you will miss out on seeing exciting details in God's message to you. Stop, slow down and see what isn't obvious to the casual reader. Make observation of God's Word a habit you enjoy.

Meditating on a Bible Passage

Meditation is the act of pondering or thinking deeply. In the case of a believer, it's reflecting on the meaning, implication and application of a particular Bible passage. It provides the foundation for study by allowing God to reveal key verses, repeated words, phrases or ideas that point us to the message he has for us. Meditation comes naturally for some and is more difficult for others; but we are all called to meditate on God's Word often.

The challenges we face today are the many distractions and stresses in our daily lives. In order to effectively meditate on God's Word, we need the Holy Spirit's help in allowing us to block out worldly cares and to focus solely on his Word and its implications for our lives. Think of meditation as the quieting of your life to listen to God's voice. You may need a special place in your home that is away from others, or a particular time of day when no one else needs your attention. Either way, meditation doesn't just happen because we want it to. Just like effective observation, it must be intentional. Make meditation a priority and see what God can do in your life as you allow his Word to sink into the very fibers of your soul.

Notes	

Isaiah 40:1-11

40 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

- Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.
- ³ A voice cries:
 - "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
- Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.
- ⁵ And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."
- A voice says, "Cry!"
 And I said, "What shall I cry?"
 All flesh is grass,
 and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.
- The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass.
- The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

- Go on up to a high mountain,
 O Zion, herald of good news;
 lift up your voice with strength,
 O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
 lift it up, fear not;
 say to the cities of Judah,
 "Behold your God!"
- Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.
- He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.



Behold the Comforter | Isaiah 40:1-11

l.	Meditate on Isaiah 40:1-11. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	Read 2 Samuel 7:23-24. Who is God referring to as "my people" in Isaiah 40:1? Why does God seek to comfort them? (See also Isaiah 1:1-4.)
3.	How is God asking Isaiah to comfort his people in Isaiah 40:1-2? In what ways does he comfort believers today, and how have you personally experienced this? (See Psalm 23:4; 119:50, 76; Lamentations 3:19-24; Romans 8:26-28.)
4.	According to Luke 3:2-6 and John 1:23, who fulfilled the prophecy recorded in Isaiah 40:3-5? What does this teach you about the character of God?
5.	From Isaiah 40:6-8, how is man like grass and flowers? What comfort and hope do believers have in Christ, according to God's Word? (See Romans 6:5; 1 Corinthians 15:53-57; 1 Peter 1:3-5, 23-25; 1 John 5:13.)

6.	What promise does God give in Isaiah 40:8? How does this promise anchor you in everyday life?
7.	What is the good news Isaiah proclaims in Isaiah 40:9-11? (See also Micah 5:4.)
8.	How does the declaration in Isaiah 40:9-11 point to Jesus? How do these truths comfort you? (See also Luke 4:18-19; John 3:16-17; 10:11, 14-16; 1 Peter 5:4.)
9.	According to Isaiah 40:11, in what ways is God a shepherd to the nation of Israel? (See also Ezekiel 34:11-16; Zechariah 9:16.)
10.	In what ways does Isaiah 40:1-11 help you to embrace God as your comforter?

Notes	

Isaiah 40:12-31

- Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?
- Who has measured the Spirit of the Lord, or what man shows him his counsel?
- Whom did he consult,
 and who made him understand?
 Who taught him the path of justice,
 and taught him knowledge,
 and showed him the way of understanding?
- Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust.
- Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering.
- All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.
- To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with him?
- An idol! A craftsman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and casts for it silver chains.
- He who is too impoverished for an offering chooses wood[b] that will not rot; he seeks out a skillful craftsman to set up an idol that will not move.
- Do you not know? Do you not hear?
 Has it not been told you from the beginning?
 Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
- 22 It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;

- who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.
- Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
 - when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One.
- Lift up your eyes on high and see:
 who created these?
 He who brings out their host by number,
 calling them all by name;
 by the greatness of his might
 and because he is strong in power,
 not one is missing.
- Why do you say, O Jacob,
 and speak, O Israel,
 "My way is hidden from the Lord,
 and my right is disregarded by my God"?
- Have you not known? Have you not heard?
 The Lord is the everlasting God,
 the Creator of the ends of the earth.
 He does not faint or grow weary;
 his understanding is unsearchable.
- He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.
- Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;
- but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.



1.

Behold the Incomparable One | *Isaiah 40:12-31*

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 40:12-31. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	What do you learn about the incomparable nature of God from the following verses: Job 26:14; 42:2; Jeremiah 32:17; Micah 7:18-20; Romans 11:33-36?
3.	What does God reveal about himself in Isaiah 40:12-14? (See also Job 38:4, 8-11; Psalm 102:25-27.) How do these truths expand your understanding of who God is and help you trust him?
4.	How are the nations described in Isaiah 40:15-17, 23-24? How does God's sovereignty over the nations challenge your perspective? (See also Psalm 46:6-7, 10; Philippians 2:9-11.)

5.	Read Isaiah 40:18-20. How do man-made idols compare to God? (See Psalm 115:4-11.) What are some things people idolize today?
6.	According to Isaiah 40:21-26, what do you learn about God as creator? (See also Psalm 8:3-8; Isaiah 48:12-13; Colossians 1:16.) Why are people without an excuse for not believing in God according to Romans 1:18-25?)
7.	Describe the incomparable nature of God in Isaiah 40:27-29. When you are weak or weary, how could these verses be an encouragement to you? (See also Matthew 11:28-30.)
8.	What is the promise and condition given in Isaiah 40:30-31? (See also Isaiah 26:3; 41:10; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.)
9.	How does the incomparable nature of God revealed in this passage give you assurance in your current circumstances?

Notes	

Isaiah 41:1-29

- 41 Listen to me in silence, O coastlands; let the peoples renew their strength; let them approach, then let them speak; let us together draw near for judgment.
- Who stirred up one from the east whom victory meets at every step?
 He gives up nations before him, so that he tramples kings underfoot; he makes them like dust with his sword, like driven stubble with his bow.
- ³ He pursues them and passes on safely, by paths his feet have not trod.
- Who has performed and done this, calling the generations from the beginning?
 I, the Lord, the first, and with the last: I am he.
- The coastlands have seen and are afraid; the ends of the earth tremble; they have drawn near and come.
- Everyone helps his neighbor and says to his brother, "Be strong!"
- The craftsman strengthens the goldsmith, and he who smooths with the hammer him who strikes the anvil, saying of the soldering, "It is good"; and they strengthen it with nails so that it cannot be moved.
- But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend;
- you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off";
- fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
- Behold, all who are incensed against you shall be put to shame and confounded; those who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish.

- You shall seek those who contend with you, but you shall not find them; those who war against you shall be as nothing at all.
- For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, "Fear not, I am the one who helps you."
- Fear not, you worm Jacob,
 you men of Israel!
 I am the one who helps you, declares the Lord;
 your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.
- Behold, I make of you a threshing sledge, new, sharp, and having teeth; you shall thresh the mountains and crush them, and you shall make the hills like chaff;
- you shall winnow them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the tempest shall scatter them.

 And you shall rejoice in the Lord; in the Holy One of Israel you shall glory.
- When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst, I the Lord will answer them; I the God of Israel will not forsake them.
- I will open rivers on the bare heights,
 and fountains in the midst of the valleys.
 I will make the wilderness a pool of water,
 and the dry land springs of water.
- I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive. I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane and the pine together,
- that they may see and know, may consider and understand together, that the hand of the Lord has done this, the Holy One of Israel has created it.
- ²¹ Set forth your case, says the Lord; bring your proofs, says the King of Jacob.
- Let them bring them, and tell us what is to happen.

LESSON 3 ISAIAH 41:1-29

Tell us the former things, what they are, that we may consider them, that we may know their outcome; or declare to us the things to come.

Tell us what is to come hereafter, that we may know that you are gods; do good, or do harm,

that we may be dismayed and terrified.

- Behold, you are nothing, and your work is less than nothing; an abomination is he who chooses you.
- I stirred up one from the north, and he has come, from the rising of the sun, and he shall call upon my name; he shall trample on rulers as on mortar, as the potter treads clay.
- Who declared it from the beginning, that we might know,

and beforehand, that we might say, "He is right"?

There was none who declared it, none who proclaimed,

none who heard your words.

- ²⁷ I was the first to say to Zion, "Behold, here they are!"
 - and I give to Jerusalem a herald of good news.
- But when I look, there is no one; among these there is no counselor who, when I ask, gives an answer.
- 29 Behold, they are all a delusion; their works are nothing; their metal images are empty wind.



Behold the Great I AM | Isaiah 41:1-29

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 41:1-29. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	Read Exodus 3:11-17. What do you learn about God as the Great I AM from the following verses: Isaiah 41:4; 43:13; 46:9-11; John 8:58; Revelation 1:17-18; 22:13? How do these truths give you confidence in God?
3.	In what ways does God capture the attention of the nations in Isaiah 41:1-4? (See also Isaiah 40:5, 15-17, 24; 45:1.)
4.	What responses do you see to the Lord's summons in Isaiah 41:5-7? What do these responses indicate?
5.	Read Genesis 12:1-3 and Deuteronomy 14:2. What does God promise Israel, and how does he call them to remember his promises in Isaiah 41:8-9?

6.	Read Isaiah 41:10-16 and list all the reasons God says not to fear. How do these truths about God help you not to fear? (See Romans 8:31-39.)
7.	In light of the promises in Isaiah 41:17-20, what does God want Israel to know and understand? (See also Isaiah 44:3; 49:10.)
8.	How has God met you in difficult times and circumstances? (See also Psalm 9:9-10; 46:1-3; 145:18.)
9.	How does God challenge the inadequacy of idols according to Isaiah 41:21-29; 46:6-7 and Jeremiah 10:5? What does this teach you about God?
10.	What claims did Jesus make about being the Great I AM? (See John 6:35; 8:12, 58; 10:7-15; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1, 5.) What does this reveal about who Jesus is?
11.	Reread Isaiah 41:1-29. How will knowing God is the Great I AM help you trust him?

Notes	

Isaiah 42:1-25

- 42 Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.
- He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;
- a bruised reed he will not break,
 and a faintly burning wick he will
 not quench;
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- ⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.
- Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out.
 - who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
 - who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it:
- "I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,
- to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.
- 8 I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.
- 9 Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."
- Sing to the Lord a new song,
 his praise from the end of the earth,
 you who go down to the sea, and all that fills it,
 the coastlands and their inhabitants.
- Let the desert and its cities lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar inhabits; let the habitants of Sela sing for joy, let them shout from the top of the mountains.

- Let them give glory to the Lord, and declare his praise in the coastlands.
- The Lord goes out like a mighty man, like a man of war he stirs up his zeal; he cries out, he shouts aloud, he shows himself mighty against his foes.
- 14 For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant.
- I will lay waste mountains and hills,
 and dry up all their vegetation;
 I will turn the rivers into islands,
 and dry up the pools.
- And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them.
 - I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground.
 - These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them.
- They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols,
 who say to metal images,
 "You are our gods."
- Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see!
- Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the Lord?
- He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear.
- The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,
 - to magnify his law and make it glorious.
- But this is a people plundered and looted; they are all of them trapped in holes and hidden in prisons;
 - they have become plunder with none to rescue, spoil with none to say, "Restore!"

LESSON 4 ISAIAH 42:1-25

Who among you will give ear to this, will attend and listen for the time to come?

- Who gave up Jacob to the looter, and Israel to the plunderers?
 Was it not the Lord, against whom we have sinned, in whose ways they would not walk, and whose law they would not obey?
- So he poured on him the heat of his anger and the might of battle;
 it set him on fire all around, but he did not understand;
 it burned him up, but he did not take it

to heart.



Behold the Lord Almighty | Isaiah 42:1-25

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 42:1-25. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	What do you learn about the Lord Almighty from the following verses: Genesis 17:1; 1 Chronicles 29:11-12; Revelation 1:8; 15:3-4?
3.	Who is the servant God is referring to in Isaiah 42:1-4, and how did he fulfill this calling? (See also Isaiah 9:6; 11:1-2; Matthew 3:16-17; Mark 10:45; Philippians 2:3-8.)
4.	How is God's justice described in Isaiah 42:2-4? In what ways is God's justice different from the world's? (See also Isaiah 5:20-23; 11:3-5; 1 Peter 2:22-24.)
5.	What makes the promises of God in Isaiah 42:5-9 trustworthy? How are they fulfilled in Christ Jesus? (See Isaiah 49:6; Luke 2:29-32; John 8:12; Revelation 21:5.)

6.	What does God say about his glory in Isaiah 42:8 and the following verses: Isaiah 6:1-8; Habakkuk 2:14; Hebrews 1:1-3; Revelation 4:11?
7.	What should our response be to the Lord Almighty according to Isaiah 42:10-12? When is this hard for you?
8.	How is God's revelation of himself as the Almighty in Isaiah 42:13-17 an encouragement to you?
9.	Read Isaiah 42:18-25. Why did Israel fail to hear and see God? What does this teach you about your relationship with the Lord? (See Matthew 15:1-9; James 1:22-25.)
10.	Reflecting on Isaiah 42:1-25, how will acknowledging God as the Lord Almighty make a difference in your life this week?

Notes	

Isaiah 43:1-28

- 43 But now thus says the Lord,
 he who created you, O Jacob,
 he who formed you, O Israel:
 "Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
 I have called you by name, you are mine.
- When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
 and through the rivers, they shall not

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned.

and the flame shall not consume you.

- For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
- Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you,
 I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life.
- Fear not, for I am with you;
 I will bring your offspring from the east,
 and from the west I will gather you.
- I will say to the north, Give up,
 and to the south, Do not withhold;
 bring my sons from afar
 and my daughters from the end of the earth,
 everyone who is called by my name,
- everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."
- Bring out the people who are blind, yet have eyes,

who are deaf, yet have ears!

 All the nations gather together, and the peoples assemble.
 Who among them can declare this, and show us the former things?
 Let them bring their witnesses to prove

them right,

and let them hear and say, It is true.

- I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior.
- I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and I am God.
- Also henceforth I am he; there is none who can deliver from my hand; I work, and who can turn it back?"
- Thus says the Lord,
 your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
 "For your sake I send to Babylon
 and bring them all down as fugitives,
 even the Chaldeans, in the ships in which
 they rejoice.
- I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King."
- Thus says the Lord,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
- who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior;

they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

- "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old.
- Behold, I am doing a new thing;
 now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
 I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.
- The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,
- the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.
- "Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob; but you have been weary of me, O Israel!
- You have not brought me your sheep for burnt offerings,
 or honored me with your sacrifices.
 I have not burdened you with offerings,
 or wearied you with frankincense.

LESSON 5 ISAIAH 43:1-28

You have not bought me sweet cane with money,

or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices.

But you have burdened me with your sins; you have wearied me with your iniquities.

²⁵ "I, I am he

who blots out your transgressions for my own sake,

and I will not remember your sins.

- Put me in remembrance; let us argue together; set forth your case, that you may be proved right.
- Your first father sinned, and your mediators transgressed against me.
- ²⁸ Therefore I will profane the princes of the sanctuary,

and deliver Jacob to utter destruction and Israel to reviling.



Behold the Savior | *Isaiah 43:1-28*

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 43:1-28. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	In Isaiah 43:1, how does God reaffirm his promise to Israel after they sinned against him? (See also Deuteronomy 7:6; Isaiah 41:14; 42:24-25.) What does this teach you about God?
3.	Why were the Israelites told not to fear in Isaiah 43:1-7? What does fear say about your grasp of these truths? (See also Psalm 46:1-2; Philippians 4:6-7; 2 Timothy 1:7; Hebrews 13:5-6.)
4.	How does God redeem people today? (See John 3:16-18; Galatians 4:4-7; Colossians 1:13-14.)
5.	Read Isaiah 43:3-13; Acts 4:11-12; 13:23 and Titus 3:3-7. How does God establish himself as Savior? How will this knowledge make a difference in your life?

6.	How does Isaiah 43:13 give you assurance in God's promises? (See also Job 42:2; Isaiah 14:27; John 10:28-29; Romans 8:35-39; Philippians 1:6.)
7.	Which of the names of God in Isaiah 43:14-15 are most meaningful to you, and why?
8.	What historical event and future promises are alluded to in Isaiah 43:16-21? (See also Exodus 14:26-30.) According to Revelation 21:1-3, what is God's purpose?
9.	What was Israel's response to God's desire to save them in Isaiah 43:22-28? How do these verses reveal God is both gracious and just?
10.	What can make it difficult to accept that God has forgiven and forgotten the sins of those who have put their trust in Jesus for salvation?
11.	How does the Savior presented in Isaiah 43 reinforce John 14:6? How does this truth lead you to repentance and worship?

Notes	

Isaiah 44:1-28

- **44** "But now hear, O Jacob my servant, Israel whom I have chosen!
- Thus says the Lord who made you, who formed you from the womb and will help you:
 - Fear not, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen.
- For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.
- They shall spring up among the grass like willows by flowing streams.
- This one will say, 'I am the Lord's,'
 another will call on the name of Jacob,
 and another will write on his hand, 'The Lord's,'
 and name himself by the name of Israel."
- 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.
- Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.

 Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people.

 Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.
- Fear not, nor be afraid;
 have I not told you from of old and declared it?
 And you are my witnesses!
 Is there a God besides me?

There is no Rock; I know not any."

⁹ All who fashion idols are nothing, and the things they delight in do not profit. Their witnesses neither see nor know, that they may be put to shame. ¹⁰ Who fashions a god or casts an idol that is profitable for nothing? ¹¹ Behold, all his companions shall be put to shame, and the craftsmen are only human. Let them all assemble, let them stand forth. They shall be terrified; they shall be put to shame together.

¹² The ironsmith takes a cutting tool and works it over the coals. He fashions it with hammers and

works it with his strong arm. He becomes hungry, and his strength fails; he drinks no water and is faint. 13 The carpenter stretches a line; he marks it out with a pencil. He shapes it with planes and marks it with a compass. He shapes it into the figure of a man, with the beauty of a man, to dwell in a house. 14 He cuts down cedars, or he chooses a cypress tree or an oak and lets it grow strong among the trees of the forest. He plants a cedar and the rain nourishes it. 15 Then it becomes fuel for a man. He takes a part of it and warms himself; he kindles a fire and bakes bread. Also he makes a god and worships it; he makes it an idol and falls down before it. 16 Half of it he burns in the fire. Over the half he eats meat: he roasts it and is satisfied. Also he warms himself and says, "Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire!" ¹⁷ And the rest of it he makes into a god, his idol, and falls down to it and worships it. He prays to it and says, "Deliver me, for you are my god!"

¹⁸ They know not, nor do they discern, for he has shut their eyes, so that they cannot see, and their hearts, so that they cannot understand. ¹⁹ No one considers, nor is there knowledge or discernment to say, "Half of it I burned in the fire; I also baked bread on its coals; I roasted meat and have eaten. And shall I make the rest of it an abomination? Shall I fall down before a block of wood?" ²⁰ He feeds on ashes; a deluded heart has led him astray, and he cannot deliver himself or say, "Is there not a lie in my right hand?"

- Remember these things, O Jacob,
 and Israel, for you are my servant;
 I formed you; you are my servant;
 O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.
- I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.
- Sing, O heavens, for the Lord has done it; shout, O depths of the earth; break forth into singing, O mountains, O forest, and every tree in it!

LESSON 6 ISAIAH 44:1-28

For the Lord has redeemed Jacob, and will be glorified in Israel.

- Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer,
 who formed you from the womb:
 "I am the Lord, who made all things,
 who alone stretched out the heavens,
 who spread out the earth by myself,
- who frustrates the signs of liars
 and makes fools of diviners,
 who turns wise men back
 and makes their knowledge foolish,
- who confirms the word of his servant and fulfills the counsel of his messengers, who says of Jerusalem, 'She shall be inhabited,' and of the cities of Judah, 'They shall be built, and I will raise up their ruins';
- who says to the deep, 'Be dry; I will dry up your rivers';
- who says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd, and he shall fulfill all my purpose'; saying of Jerusalem, 'She shall be built,' and of the temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'"



Behold the Maker | Isaiah 44:1-28

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 44:1-28. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	Read Isaiah 43:28 with 44:1-5. How does God reassure Israel?
3.	How do the promises revealed in Isaiah 44:3-5 find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit? (See also Ezekiel 36:25-27; John 7:37-39; Titus 3:4-7.)
4.	What does Isaiah 44:6-8 reveal about God? How do these truths encourage you to trust Him?
5.	Compare and contrast God, the Maker, with man-made idols in Isaiah 44:6-20, 24. How does this passage expose the absurdity of making and worshiping idols?

6.	What idols in our culture are you tempted to worship or put your hope in? What does the Bible tell us to do regarding idols? (See 1 Corinthians 10:14; Colossians 3:5; 1 Thessalonians 1:9.)
7.	Read Isaiah 44:21-24. How does God's promise to redeem Israel point to him as their Maker?
8.	How are we to respond to God as our Maker? (See Psalm 95:6; Isaiah 44:23; Revelation 4:11.)
9.	How does the character of God revealed in Isaiah 44:24-28 lead you to worship Him? (See also Psalm 8.)
10.	Reread Isaiah 44. How will embracing the truth that God is our Maker change the way you view yourself and others?

Notes	

Isaiah 45:1-47:15

- 45 Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed:
- "I will go before you
 and level the exalted places,
 I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
 and cut through the bars of iron,
- I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
- For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name,

I name you, though you do not know me.

- I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me,
- 6 that people may know, from the rising of the sun

and from the west, that there is none besides me;

I am the Lord, and there is no other.

- I form light and create darkness;
 I make well-being and create calamity;
 I am the Lord, who does all these things.
- "Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit; let the earth cause them both to sprout; I the Lord have created it.
- "Woe to him who strives with him who formed him,

a pot among earthen pots! Does the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?'

or 'Your work has no handles'?

- Woe to him who says to a father, 'What are you begetting?' or to a woman, 'With what are you in labor?'"
- Thus says the Lord,
 the Holy One of Israel, and the one who
 formed him:
 "Ask me of things to come:

"Ask me of things to come; will you command me concerning my children and the work of my hands?

- I made the earth
 and created man on it;it was my hands that stretched out the heavens,
 and I commanded all their host.
- I have stirred him up in righteousness, and I will make all his ways level; he shall build my city and set my exiles free, not for price or reward," says the Lord of hosts.
- Thus says the Lord:"The wealth of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush,

and the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over to you and be yours; they shall follow you; they shall come over in chains and bow down to you.

They will plead with you, saying:
'Surely God is in you, and there is no other,
no god besides him.'"

- Truly, you are a God who hides himself, O God of Israel, the Savior.
- 6 All of them are put to shame and confounded; the makers of idols go in confusion together.
- But Israel is saved by the Lord with everlasting salvation; you shall not be put to shame or confounded to all eternity.
- 18 For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (he is God!),

LESSON 7 ISAIAH 45:1-47:15

who formed the earth and made it
(he established it;
he did not create it empty,
he formed it to be inhabited!):
"I am the Lord, and there is no other.
I did not speak in secret,
in a land of darkness:

- in a land of darkness;
 I did not say to the offspring of Jacob,
 'Seek me in vain.'
 I the Lord speak the truth;
 I declare what is right.
- "Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, you survivors of the nations!
 They have no knowledge who carry about their wooden idols, and keep on praying to a god that cannot save.
- Declare and present your case;
 let them take counsel together!
 Who told this long ago?
 Who declared it of old?
 Was it not I, the Lord?
 And there is no other god besides me,
 a righteous God and a Savior;
 there is none besides me.
- ²² "Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.
- By myself I have sworn;
 from my mouth has gone out in righteousness
 a word that shall not return:
 'To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance.'
- "Only in the Lord, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength; to him shall come and be ashamed all who were incensed against him.
- In the Lord all the offspring of Israel shall be justified and shall glory."

46 Bel bows down; Nebo stoops; their idols are on beasts and livestock; these things you carry are borne as burdens on weary beasts.

- They stoop; they bow down together; they cannot save the burden, but themselves go into captivity.
- "Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been borne by me from before your birth,

carried from the womb;

- even to your old age I am he,
 and to gray hairs I will carry you.
 I have made, and I will bear;
 I will carry and will save.
- To whom will you liken me and makeme equal, and compare me, that we may be alike?
- Those who lavish gold from the purse, and weigh out silver in the scales, hire a goldsmith, and he makes it into a god; then they fall down and worship!
- They lift it to their shoulders, they carry it, they set it in its place, and it stands there; it cannot move from its place.
 If one cries to it, it does not answer or save him from his trouble.
- ⁸ "Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors,
- remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me,
- declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,'
- calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.
- "Listen to me, you stubborn of heart, you who are far from righteousness:

LESSON 7 ISAIAH 45:1-47:15

- I bring near my righteousness; it is not far off, and my salvation will not delay;I will put salvation in Zion, for Israel my glory."
- 47 Come down and sit in the dust,
 O virgin daughter of Babylon;
 sit on the ground without a throne,
 O daughter of the Chaldeans!
 For you shall no more be called tender and delicate.
- Take the millstones and grind flour, put off your veil, strip off your robe, uncover your legs, pass through the rivers.
- Your nakedness shall be uncovered, and your disgrace shall be seen.
 I will take vengeance, and I will spare no one.
- Our Redeemer—the Lord of hosts is his name is the Holy One of Israel.
- Sit in silence, and go into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans; for you shall no more be called the mistress of kingdoms.
- I was angry with my people;
 I profaned my heritage;
 I gave them into your hand;
 you showed them no mercy;
 on the aged you made your yoke
 exceedingly heavy.
- You said, "I shall be mistress forever," so that you did not lay these things to heart or remember their end.
- Now therefore hear this, you lover of pleasures, who sit securely,
 who say in your heart,
 "I am, and there is no one besides me;
 I shall not sit as a widow
- These two things shall come to you in a moment, in one day; the loss of children and widowhood shall come upon you in full measure, in spite of your many sorceries

or know the loss of children":

and the great power of your enchantments.

- You felt secure in your wickedness; you said, "No one sees me"; your wisdom and your knowledge led you astray, and you said in your heart, "I am, and there is no one besides me."
- But evil shall come upon you,
 which you will not know how to charm away;
 disaster shall fall upon you,
 for which you will not be able to atone;
 and ruin shall come upon you suddenly,
 of which you know nothing.
- Stand fast in your enchantments and your many sorceries, with which you have labored from your youth;
 - perhaps you may be able to succeed; perhaps you may inspire terror.
- 3 You are wearied with your many counsels; let them stand forth and save you, those who divide the heavens, who gaze at the stars, who at the new moons make known what shall come upon you.
- 14 Behold, they are like stubble;
 the fire consumes them;
 they cannot deliver themselves
 from the power of the flame.
 No coal for warming oneself is this,
- no fire to sit before!

 Such to you are those with whom you have
- labored,
 who have done business with you from
 - your youth; they wander about, each in his own direction;
 - they wander about, each in his own direction; there is no one to save you.



Behold the One True God | Isaiah 45:1-47:15

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 45:1-47:15. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	How many times do you find the statement "I am the Lord and there is no other" in Isaiah 45? How does knowing this truth help you trust in the One True God?
3.	According to Isaiah 45:1-13, for what purposes did God anoint Cyrus, and why? How does knowing God can use anyone and anything for the good of his people give you peace?
4.	How does God's mention of Cyrus, written over a century before his birth, demonstrate his authority over history and strengthen your confidence in the Bible's trustworthiness? (See also Numbers 23:19; Isaiah 46:10-11; 55:10-11.) Note: King Cyrus was God's instrument to deliver Israel out of captivity in Babylon.
5.	What do you learn about questioning God's sovereignty in Isaiah 45:9-13?

6.	What does Isaiah 45:14-25 say about God? How do the following verses establish Jesus is the One True God: John 14:5-7; Philippians 2:10-11 and Hebrews 1:1-3?
7.	What is the distinction between the One True God and the "gods" found in Isaiah 46:1-13? How does this passage encourage you to give up worldly thoughts or ideas and instead trust in God?
8.	Read Isaiah 47:1-15. What was the folly of the Babylonians that caused their downfall? (See also Psalm 137:1-9.) How do you see this in the world today?
9.	Reflect upon the repeated statements in Isaiah 45:5-6, 18, 21-22 and 46:9 and compare to Isaiah 47:8, 10. How are you challenged to embrace the One True God?
10.	Reread Isaiah 45-47. What did you learn about the One True God that will make a difference in your life this week, and why?

Notes	

Isaiah 48:1-22

- 48 Hear this, O house of Jacob,
 who are called by the name of Israel,
 and who came from the waters of Judah,
 who swear by the name of the Lord
 and confess the God of Israel,
 but not in truth or right.
- For they call themselves after the holy city, and stay themselves on the God of Israel; the Lord of hosts is his name.
- "The former things I declared of old; they went out from my mouth, and I announced them; then suddenly I did them, and they came to pass.
- Because I know that you are obstinate, and your neck is an iron sinew and your forehead brass,
- I declared them to you from of old, before they came to pass I announced them to you,
 - lest you should say, 'My idol did them, my carved image and my metal image commanded them.'
- "You have heard; now see all this; and will you not declare it? From this time forth I announce to you new things,

hidden things that you have not known.

- They are created now, not long ago; before today you have never heard of them, lest you should say, 'Behold, I knew them.'
- You have never heard, you have never known, from of old your ear has not been opened. For I knew that you would surely deal treacherously, and that from before birth you were called a rebel.
- "For my name's sake I defer my anger; for the sake of my praise I restrain it for you, that I may not cut you off.
- Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tried you in the furnace of affliction.

- For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it, for how should my name be profaned?

 My glory I will not give to another.
- "Listen to me, O Jacob, and Israel, whom I called! I am he; I am the first, and I am the last.
- My hand laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens; when I call to them, they stand forth together.
- "Assemble, all of you, and listen!
 Who among them has declared these things?
 The Lord loves him;
 he shall perform his purpose on Babylon, and his arm shall be against the Chaldeans.
- I, even I, have spoken and called him; I have brought him, and he will prosper in his way.
- Draw near to me, hear this: from the beginning I have not spoken in secret, from the time it came to be I have been there."

And now the Lord God has sent me, and his Spirit.

- Thus says the Lord,
 your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
 "I am the Lord your God,
 who teaches you to profit,
 who leads you in the way you should go.
- Oh that you had paid attention to my commandments!

Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea:

your offspring would have been like the sand, and your descendants like its grains; their name would never be cut off or destroyed from before me." LESSON 8 ISAIAH 48:1-22

Go out from Babylon, flee from Chaldea, declare this with a shout of joy, proclaim it, send it out to the end of the earth; say, "The Lord has redeemed his servant Jacob!"

They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts;

he made water flow for them from the rock; he split the rock and the water gushed out.

²² "There is no peace," says the Lord, "for the wicked."



Behold the Long-Suffering One | Isaiah 48:1-22

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 48:1-22. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	What do you learn about the long-suffering nature of God from the following verses: Psalm 103:8-12; 1 Timothy 1:15-16 and 2 Peter 3:8-9?
3.	How does God expose the hypocrisy of Israel in Isaiah 48:1-2? (See also Micah 3:11.) How is this a warning for Christians today?
4.	As you read Isaiah 48:1-8, how do you see God's patience and grace to the Israelites, despite their rebellion? How has the same grace been extended to you today through Christ Jesus? (See Ephesians 1:3-7; 2:1-10.)
5.	According to Isaiah 48:9-11, why does God defer his anger toward his people? (See also 1 Samuel 12:22.) How does this lead you to worship Him?

6.	What assurances does God give Israel in Isaiah 48:12-16? What assurances has God given to Christ followers today?
7.	What does God's repeated self-declaration in Isaiah 41:14; 43:14; 48:17 and 49:7 teach you about him?
8.	How is redemption accomplished according to Romans 3:21-26; Galatians 3:10-14 and Titus 2:11-14? Who in your life needs to hear this truth?
9.	What is the result of Israel's disobedience in Isaiah 48:18-19? When do you find yourself unwilling to listen or obey God's commands?
10.	With all that God has revealed about Israel's sin and rebellion in this chapter, how does Isaiah 48:20-22 affirm God is long-suffering? (See also Isaiah 52:9; 63:9.) In what ways is this an encouragement to you?
11.	Reread Isaiah 48. What have you learned about God's long-suffering that you will apply to your own life this week?

Notes	

Isaiah 49:1-50:11

- 49 Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name.
- He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.
- And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the Lord,
 - yet surely my right is with the Lord, and my recompense with my God."
- And now the Lord says,
 he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
 to bring Jacob back to him;
 and that Israel might be gathered to him—
 for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord,
 and my God has become my strength—
- he says:"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,

the servant of rulers:

"Kings shall see and arise;
princes, and they shall prostrate
themselves;
because of the Lord, who is faithful,

the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

- Thus says the Lord:
 "In a time of favor I have answered you;
 in a day of salvation I have helped you;
 I will keep you and give you
 as a covenant to the people,
 to establish the land,
 to apportion the desolate heritages,
- saying to the prisoners, 'Come out,'
 to those who are in darkness, 'Appear.'
 They shall feed along the ways;
 on all bare heights shall be their pasture;
- they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them,
 - for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them.
- And I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways shall be raised up.
- Behold, these shall come from afar, and behold, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene."
- Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.
- But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me."
- "Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb?
 Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.
- Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;
 - your walls are continually before me.
- 17 Your builders make haste; your destroyers and those who laid you waste go out from you.

LESSON 9 ISAIAH 49:1-50:11

- Lift up your eyes around and see;
 they all gather, they come to you.
 As I live, declares the Lord,
 you shall put them all on as an ornament;
 you shall bind them on as a bride does.
- "Surely your waste and your desolate places and your devastated land—surely now you will be too narrow for your inhabitants, and those who swallowed you up will be far away.
- The children of your bereavement will yet say in your ears:
 'The place is too narrow for me; make room for me to dwell in.'
- Thus says the Lord God:
 "Behold, I will lift up my hand to the nations, and raise my signal to the peoples; and they shall bring your sons in their arms, and your daughters shall be carried on their shoulders.
- 23 Kings shall be your foster fathers, and their queens your nursing mothers. With their faces to the ground they shall bow down to you, and lick the dust of your feet. Then you will know that I am the Lord; those who wait for me shall not be put to shame."
- ²⁴ Can the prey be taken from the mighty, or the captives of a tyrant be rescued?
- For thus says the Lord:

 "Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken, and the prey of the tyrant be rescued, for I will contend with those who contend with you,

and I will save your children.

I will make your oppressors eat their own flesh, and they shall be drunk with their own blood as with wine.
 Then all flesh shall know that I am the Lord your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."

50 Thus says the Lord:

sent away.

"Where is your mother's certificate of divorce, with which I sent her away?

Or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you?

Behold, for your iniquities you were sold, and for your transgressions your mother was

- Why, when I came, was there no man; why, when I called, was there no one to answer? Is my hand shortened, that it cannot redeem?
 - Is my hand shortened, that it cannot redeem?
 Or have I no power to deliver?
 Behold, by my rebuke I dry up the sea,
 I make the rivers a desert;
 their fish stink for lack of water
 and die of thirst.
- ³ I clothe the heavens with blackness and make sackcloth their covering."
- The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens;

he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

- The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward.
- I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;

I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.

LESSON 9 ISAIAH 49:1-50:11

But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

8 He who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary?

Let him come near to me.

9 Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

- Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God.
- Behold, all you who kindle a fire,
 who equip yourselves with burning torches!
 Walk by the light of your fire,
 and by the torches that you have kindled!
 This you have from my hand:
 you shall lie down in torment.



Behold the Servant | Isaiah 49:1-50:11

l .	Meditate on Isaiah 49:1-50:11. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	What are some ways the Servant is identified in Isaiah 49:1-7? Who is the Servant described in these verses? (See also Luke 1:30-33; Philippians 2:5-11.)
3.	What is the significance of the "sharp sword" mentioned in Isaiah 49:2? (See also John 1:1-3; Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12.)
4.	What prophecy about Jesus is given in Isaiah 49:6? (See also John 1:4, 9-12; Acts 26:23.) How are you personally called to respond? (See also Matthew 5:14-16; Acts 1:8.)
5.	What promises regarding the Servant are described in Isaiah 49:8-12? Which one is most meaningful to you, and why? (See also Luke 4:16-21; 13:29; Colossians 1:13-14; Revelation 7:9-10, 16-17.)

6.	Read Isaiah 49:13-21 with Isaiah 44:21. How did God reassure Israel? What promises of God do you cling to when you experience sorrow, despair or feel forgotten by God?
7.	What promises does the Lord give in Isaiah 49:22-26? What is your response to these truths? (See also Psalm 29:2; 71:8; Colossians 3:23-24.)
8.	Contrast the Servant's obedience with Israel's sin in Isaiah 50:1-11. How is Jesus an example for you? (See also Matthew 26:39, 67; Philippians 2:8; Hebrews 5:8; 10:7.)
9.	According to Isaiah 50:10-11, what is the result of self-reliance and self-sufficiency over trusting the Lord? (See also Proverbs 3:5-8; Jeremiah 17:5-8; Romans 1:21-22.)
10.	Reread Isaiah 49-50. Which truths about Jesus the Servant increase your love for him, and why?

Notes	

Isaiah 51:1-52:12

- **51** "Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.
- Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him.
- For the Lord comforts Zion;
 he comforts all her waste places
 and makes her wilderness like Eden,
 her desert like the garden of the Lord;
 joy and gladness will be found in her,
 thanksgiving and the voice of song.
- "Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.
- My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait.
- Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
 - but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.
- "Listen to me, you who know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear not the reproach of man, nor be dismayed at their revilings.
- For 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 to all generations."

- Awake, awake, put on strength,
 O arm of the Lord;
 awake, as in days of old,
 the generations of long ago.
 Was it not you who cut Rahab in pieces,
 who pierced the dragon?
- Was it not you who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep, who made the depths of the sea a way for the redeemed to pass over?
- And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
- "I, I am he who comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies,
 - of the son of man who is made like grass,
- and have forgotten the Lord, your Maker,
 who stretched out the heavens
 and laid the foundations of the earth,
 and you fear continually all the day
 because of the wrath of the oppressor,
 when he sets himself to destroy?
 And where is the wrath of the oppressor?
- He who is bowed down shall speedily be released;
 - he shall not die and go down to the pit, neither shall his bread be lacking.
- I am the Lord your God, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar the Lord of hosts is his name.
- And I have put my words in your mouth and covered you in the shadow of my hand, establishing the heavens and laying the foundations of the earth, and saying to Zion, 'You are my people.'"
- Wake yourself, wake yourself, stand up, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the hand of the Lord the cup of his wrath, who have drunk to the dregs the bowl, the cup of staggering.

LESSON 10 ISAIAH 51:1-52:12

- There is none to guide her among all the sons she has borne; there is none to take her by the hand among all the sons she has brought up.
- These two things have happened to you who will console you? devastation and destruction, famine and sword;

who will comfort you?

- Your sons have fainted; they lie at the head of every street like an antelope in a net; they are full of the wrath of the Lord, the rebuke of your God.
- Therefore hear this, you who are afflicted, who are drunk, but not with wine:
- Thus says your Lord, the Lord, your God who pleads the cause of his people:

"Behold, I have taken from your hand the cup of staggering;

the bowl of my wrath you shall drink no more;

and I will put it into the hand of your tormentors,

who have said to you,
'Bow down, that we may pass over';
and you have made your back like the ground
and like the street for them to pass over."

52 Awake, awake,

put on your strength, O Zion; put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for there shall no more come into you the uncircumcised and the unclean.

Shake yourself from the dust and arise;
 be seated, O Jerusalem;
 loose the bonds from your neck,
 O captive daughter of Zion.

³ For thus says the Lord: "You were sold for nothing, and you shall be redeemed without money." ⁴ For thus says the Lord God: "My people went down at the first into Egypt to sojourn there, and the Assyrian oppressed them for nothing.

- ⁵ Now therefore what have I here," declares the Lord, "seeing that my people are taken away for nothing? Their rulers wail," declares the Lord, "and continually all the day my name is despised. ⁶ Therefore my people shall know my name. Therefore in that day they shall know that it is I who speak; here I am."
- How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,

who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;

together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

- Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.
- The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.
- Depart, depart, go out from there; touch no unclean thing; go out from the midst of her; purify yourselves, you who bear the vessels of the Lord.
- For you shall not go out in haste, and you shall not go in flight, for the Lord will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard.



Behold the Ancient of Days | *Isaiah 51:1-52:12*

1.	Meditate on Isaiah Isaiah 51:1-52:12. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses repeated words and phrases.)
2.	What is revealed about God, the Ancient of Days, in Genesis 1:1; Psalm 90:2; Isaiah 44:6; Daniel 7:9-14; John 1:1-2; 8:57-58; Revelation 1:12-18?
3.	Who is God addressing in Isaiah 51:1-3? What is he asking them to do, and why? (See also Genesis 12:1-3; 17:3-7; Matthew 5:6.)
4.	What do you learn about salvation and righteousness in Isaiah 51:4-8? (See also Isaiah 32:17; Jeremiah 9:24; 23:5; Acts 4:12; Romans 1:16-17; Revelation 19:11.)
5.	How does knowing the truth that God never changes give you hope for the future? (See Psalm 102:24-27; Malachi 3:6; Romans 15:4; Hebrews 13:8.)

6.	According to Isaiah 51:9-16, in what ways does Israel recognize God as the Ancient of Days, and what is God's response? How is this a comfort to you?
7.	Based on Isaiah 51:17-23, what judgment of God had the Israelites experienced, and what does God promise in return? What does this reveal about God?
8.	In what ways does God extend grace to Christ followers today? (See John 1:14-17; Romans 3:24; 6:14; Ephesians 1:3-8; 2:8.)
9.	What do you learn about Israel's redemption in Isaiah 52:1-6? How are you encouraged by the future God has planned for his people? (See also 1 John 3:2; Revelation 21:1-4, 27.)
10.	What is the good news according to Isaiah 52:7-12? (See also Romans 10:13.) To whom is God leading you to be a messenger of the good news? (See Acts 1:8.)
11.	Reread 51:1-52:12. How does God's eternal nature encourage you to trust in his promises and live with purpose?

Notes	

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

- Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.
- As many were astonished at you his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—
- so shall he sprinkle many nations.

 Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,
 - for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.
- **53** Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?
- For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
 - and no beauty that we should desire him.
- He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
- Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
- But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.
- 6 All 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.

- He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.
- By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living,

stricken for the transgression of my people?

- And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.
- Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief;
 - when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
 - the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.
- Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
 - by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
 - make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.
- Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
 - and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.



Behold the Messiah | Isaiah 52:13-53:12

l.	Meditate on Isaiah 52:13-53:12. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	How do the following New Testament verses confirm the awaited Messiah prophesied in Isaiah 52:13-53:12 is Jesus Christ: Matthew 8:14-17; Luke 22:37; John 12:37-38; Acts 8:32-357
3.	What contrasting details about the Messiah are portrayed in Isaiah 52:13-53:3? How was he received, and why? (See also Psalm 22:6-8; John 1:10-11; 1 Corinthians 1:18.)
4.	How does Isaiah 53:4-6 describe Jesus as the sacrifice for our sins? (See also John 1:29; Romans 4:25; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 John 2:2.)
5.	How do Hebrews 9:12-14 and 10:11-14 give you peace regarding the sufficiency and permanence of Jesus' sacrifice?

6.	What do you learn about the Messiah from Isaiah 53:7-9? How does Jesus' endurance on our behalf give you a deeper love for him? (See also Matthew 27:13-14; 1 Peter 2:20-24.)
7.	What keeps you from experiencing the depth of Jesus' sacrifice for you?
8.	Read Isaiah 53:10. What do you learn about God the Father's role in Jesus' death and resurrection? (See also John 16:32; Acts 2:22-24.)
9.	Believers are counted as righteous according to Isaiah 53:11-12. What does this mean to you, and what is your daily responsibility? (See also Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:1-8.)
10.	In light of Messiah's suffering in Isaiah 52:13-53:12, how seriously do you take sin in your life? What changes do you need to make?

Notes	

Isaiah 54:1-55:13

- 54 "Sing, O barren one, who did not bear; break forth into singing and cry aloud, you who have not been in labor!For the children of the desolate one will be more
 - than the children of her who is married," says the Lord.
- ² "Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out;
 - do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes.
- ³ For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left,
 - and your offspring will possess the nations and will people the desolate cities.
- "Fear not, for you will not be ashamed; be not confounded, for you will not be disgraced;
 - for you will forget the shame of your youth, and the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more.
- For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called.
- For the Lord has called you like a wife deserted and grieved in spirit, like a wife of youth when she is cast off, says your God.
- ⁷ For a brief moment I deserted you, but with great compassion I will gather you.
- In overflowing anger for a moment
 I hid my face from you,
 but with everlasting love I will have
 compassion on you,"
 says the Lord, your Redeemer.
- "This is like the days of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you,
 - and will not rebuke you.

- For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be
 - and my covenant of peace shall not be removed," says the Lord, who has compassion on you.
- "O afflicted one, storm-tossed and not comforted,
 - behold, I will set your stones in antimony, and lay your foundations with sapphires.
- I will make your pinnacles of agate, your gates of carbuncles, and all your wall of precious stones.
- All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.
- In righteousness you shall be established; you shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; and from terror, for it shall not come near you.
- If anyone stirs up strife,
 it is not from me;
 whoever stirs up strife with you shall fall because of you.
- Behold, I have created the smith who blows the fire of coals and produces a weapon for its purpose.
- I have also created the ravager to destroy; no weapon that is fashioned against you
 - shall succeed,
 and you shall refute every tongue that rises
 - against you in judgment.

 This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord."
- 55 "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
 Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

LESSON 12 ISAIAH 54:1-55:13

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread.

and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

- ⁴ Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.
- 5 Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,

and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,

because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,

for he has glorified you.

- "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;
- let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

- For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.
- For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven

and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

- "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
- Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the Lord, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."



Behold the Compassionate God | Isaiah 54:1-55:13

I.	Meditate on Isaiah 1saiah 54:1-55:13. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	How does Isaiah 54:1-3 relate to the promises found in Genesis 22:17; Exodus 34:24 and Hosea 1:10?
3.	How do you see God's righteous anger as well as his deep compassion in Isaiah 54:4-8?
4.	Define reproach. How does knowing that Christ Jesus bore your reproach encourage you to live with gratitude? (See also Isaiah 25:8; Romans 15:3; Colossians 1:21-22; 1 Peter 2:24.)
5.	Consider some of your daily challenges. How does the illustrated promise in Isaiah 54:9-10 give you courage to face them? (See also Deuteronomy 31:6.)

6.	What does Isaiah 54:11-17 reveal about God's compassion?
7.	List the promises in Isaiah 55:1-5. How does knowing these truths are fulfilled in Christ Jesus give you hope? (See also Matthew 1:1; John 6:35; Revelation 21:6; 22:17.)
8.	Read Isaiah 55:6-7. What does "seek the Lord while he may be found" suggest? (See also Deuteronomy 4:29; Jeremiah 29:13-14; Romans 10:13; 2 Corinthians 6:2.)
9.	According to Isaiah 55:8-9, God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours. What are Christ followers called to do in light of this truth? (See also Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Philippians 4:8.)
10.	What assurance is found in God's Word according to Isaiah 55:10-13? How often do you share God's Word with others?
11.	What is your response to God's compassion revealed in Isaiah 54:1-55:13?

Notes	

Isaiah 56:1-57:21

56 Thus says the Lord:

"Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my righteousness be revealed.

- Blessed is the man who does this, and the son of man who holds it fast, who keeps the Sabbath, not profaning it, and keeps his hand from doing any evil."
- Let not the foreigner who has joined himself to the Lord say,

"The Lord will surely separate me from his people";

and let not the eunuch say,

"Behold, I am a dry tree."

- ⁴ For thus says the Lord:
 - "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant,
- I will give in my house and within my walls

 a monument and a name
 better than sons and daughters;

 I will give them an everlasting name

 that shall not be cut off.
- ⁶ "And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,

to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord.

and to be his servants,

everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,

and holds fast my covenant-

- these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."
- 8 The Lord God,

who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, "I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered."

- 9 All you beasts of the field, come to devourall you beasts in the forest.
- His watchmen are blind;

they are all without knowledge;

they are all silent dogs;

they cannot bark,

dreaming, lying down,

loving to slumber.

The dogs have a mighty appetite;

they never have enough. But they are shepherds who have no

understanding;

they have all turned to their own way, each to his own gain, one and all.

- "Come," they say, "let me get wine; let us fill ourselves with strong drink; and tomorrow will be like this day, great beyond measure."
- 57 The righteous man perishes,
 and no one lays it to heart;
 devout men are taken away,
 while no one understands.
 For the righteous man is taken away from calamity;
- he enters into peace;
 they rest in their beds
 who walk in their uprightness.
- But you, draw near, sons of the sorceress, offspring of the adulterer and the loose woman.
- Whom are you mocking? Against whom do you open your mouth wide

and stick out your tongue?

Are you not children of transgression, the offspring of deceit,

- you who burn with lust among the oaks, under every green tree, who slaughter your children in the valleys,
- under the clefts of the rocks?
 Among the smooth stones of the valley is your portion;

they, they, are your lot; to them you have poured out a drink offering, LESSON 13 ISAIAH 56:1-57:21

you have brought a grain offering. Shall I relent for these things?

- On a high and lofty mountain
 you have set your bed,
 and there you went up to offer sacrifice.
- Behind the door and the doorpost you have set up your memorial; for, deserting me, you have uncovered your bed,

you have gone up to it, you have made it wide; and you have made a covenant for yourself with them,

you have loved their bed, you have looked on nakedness.

- You journeyed to the king with oil and multiplied your perfumes; you sent your envoys far off, and sent down even to Sheol.
- You were wearied with the length of your way, but you did not say, "It is hopeless"; you found new life for your strength, and so you were not faint.
- Whom did you dread and fear,
 so that you lied,
 and did not remember me,
 did not lay it to heart?
 Have I not held my peace, even for a long time,
 and you do not fear me?
- I will declare your righteousness and your deeds,

but they will not profit you.

When you cry out, let your collection of idols deliver you!

The wind will carry them all off, a breath will take them away.

But he who takes refuge in me shall possess the land

and shall inherit my holy mountain.

And it shall be said, "Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstruction from my people's way."

- For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
 - "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,

to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

- For I will not contend forever, nor will I always be angry; for the spirit would grow faint before me, and the breath of life that I made.
- Because of the iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry,

I struck him; I hid my face and was angry, but he went on backsliding in the way of his own heart.

- I have seen his ways, but I will heal him;
 I will lead him and restore comfort to him and his mourners,
- oreating the fruit of the lips.

 Peace, peace, to the far and to the near," says the Lord,

"and I will heal him.

- But the wicked are like the tossing sea; for it cannot be quiet, and its waters toss up mire and dirt.
- There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked."



Behold the Holy One | Isaiah 56:1-57:21

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 56:1-57:21. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	In the book of Isaiah, God is repeatedly identified as the Holy One of Israel. What characteristics of a holy lifestyle are found in Isaiah 56:1-2 and Psalm 15:1-5? Which of these do you find difficult to practice, and why?
3.	To whom are the promises in Isaiah 56:3-8 given? (See also 1 Kings 8:41-43.) How does this reveal God's redemptive plan for all people? (See also Isaiah 49:6; John 3:16; Galatians 3:26-29; Ephesians 2:11-13; Revelation 7:9-10.)
4.	How is the rebuke of Israel's failed leadership in Isaiah 56:9-12 a warning for us today? (See also Ezekiel 34:10.) In what ways are Christian leaders called to be different? (See also Ezekiel 3:17; Matthew 20:25-28; 1 Peter 5:2-3.)

5.	How does God protect the righteous in Isaiah 57:1-2? How does this comfort you? (See also 2 Kings 22:20; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.)
6.	In what ways was God's holiness affronted in Isaiah 57:3-13? How is God's holiness affronted today?
7.	Read Isaiah 57:14-21 with Hebrews 12:5-11. Why does God discipline his people? How does this give you confidence in God and hope for the future?
8.	What does Isaiah 57:15 teach you about God? What additional truths about the holiness of God do you learn from the following verses: Psalm 29:2; 77:13; Isaiah 5:16; 6:1-4; Revelation 4:8-11?
9.	Reread Isaiah 56 and 57. How do these chapters encourage you to choose a life of holiness daily? (See also 1 Peter 1:13-16.)

Notes	

Isaiah 58:1-59:21

- 58 "Cry aloud; do not hold back; lift up your voice like a trumpet; declare to my people their transgression, to the house of Jacob their sins.
- Yet they seek me daily and delight to know my ways,
 - as if they were a nation that did righteousness and did not forsake the judgment of their God;
 - they ask of me righteous judgments; they delight to draw near to God.
- 'Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?'
 - Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
 - and oppress all your workers.
- Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist.
 - Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high.
- Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself?
 - Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?
 - Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the Lord?
- "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke,
 - to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

guard.

- Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house;
 - when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?
- Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear

- Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'
 If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,
- if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.
- And the Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong;
 - and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.
- And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
 - you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in.
- "If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly;
- then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth:
 - I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father,
 - for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."
- **59** Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,
 - or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;
- but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.
- For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies; your tongue mutters wickedness.

LESSON 14 ISAIAH 58:1-59:21

- No one enters suit justly; no one goes to law honestly; they rely on empty pleas, they speak lies, they conceive mischief and give birth to iniquity.
- They hatch adders' eggs; they weave the spider's web; he who eats their eggs dies, and from one that is crushed a viper is hatched.
- Their webs will not serve as clothing; men will not cover themselves with what they make.
 - Their works are works of iniquity, and deeds of violence are in their hands.
- Their feet run to evil, and they are swift to shed innocent blood; their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; desolation and destruction are in their highways.
- The way of peace they do not know, and there is no justice in their paths; they have made their roads crooked; no one who treads on them knows peace.
- Therefore justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; we hope for light, and behold, darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom.
- We grope for the wall like the blind; we grope like those who have no eyes; we stumble at noon as in the twilight, among those in full vigor we are like dead men.
- We all growl like bears;
 we moan and moan like doves;
 we hope for justice, but there is none;
 for salvation, but it is far from us.
- For our transgressions are multiplied before you,
 - and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities:
- transgressing, and denying the Lord, and turning back from following our God, speaking oppression and revolt,

conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words.

- Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter.
- Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey.
 - The Lord saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.
- He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede:
 - then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him.
- He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak.
- According to their deeds, so will he repay, wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies;
 - to the coastlands he will render repayment.
- So they shall fear the name of the Lord from the west,
 - and his glory from the rising of the sun; for he will come like a rushing stream, which the wind of the Lord drives.
- "And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression," declares the Lord.
- ²¹ "And as for me, this is my covenant with them," says the Lord: "My Spirit that is upon you, and my words that I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, or out of the mouth of your offspring, or out of the mouth of your children's offspring," says the Lord, "from this time forth and forevermore."



Behold the Gracious God | Isaiah 58:1-59:21

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 58:1-59:21. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	What do you learn about God's grace from the following verses: John 1:14-17; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8; 2 Timothy 1:9; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:10?
3.	According to Isaiah 58:1-5, what did the Israelites' actions reveal about the condition of their hearts? (See also Isaiah 29:13; Titus 1:16.) How is this a warning to you?
4.	What do you need to do to keep your heart right before God? (See Psalm 24:4-6; 119:11; 139:23-24; Proverbs 3:6; Jeremiah 29:13; Hebrews 10:25; Colossians 3:16-17.)
5.	Read Isaiah 58:3-8. How is Israel contradicting God's purpose in fasting? What is God's response to those who fast according to his purposes?

6.	In what ways does Isaiah 58:8-14 reveal God's grace? How does this relate to Mark 12:30-31?
7.	What conditions and promises does God give in Isaiah 58:13-14? How can this be applied to Christ followers today?
8.	What does Isaiah 59:1-8 reveal about the depravity of man and the need for God's mercy and grace? (See also Romans 3:9-18.)
9.	What were the people doing in Isaiah 59:9-13? How do these verses give an example of acknowledging one's sin? (See also Psalm 32:5; Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:9.)
10.	How does Isaiah 59:14-21 foreshadow God's grace through Christ? (See also Zechariah 12:10; Romans 3:23-24; Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 7:25.)
11.	Reread Isaiah 58-59. How does God's grace to you motivate you to extend grace to other undeserving people?

Notes	

Isaiah 60:1-22

- **60** Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
- For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.
- And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.
- Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
- Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
 - the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.
 - They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.
- All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you; the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you; they shall come up with acceptance on my altar,
 - and I will beautify my beautiful house.
- Who are these that fly like a cloud, and like doves to their windows?
- For the coastlands shall hope for me, the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your children from afar, their silver and gold with them, for the name of the Lord your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has made you beautiful.
- Foreigners shall build up your walls, and their kings shall minister to you; for in my wrath I struck you, but in my favor I have had mercy on you.

- Your gates shall be open continually; day and night they shall not be shut, that people may bring to you the wealth of the nations,
 - with their kings led in procession.
- For the nation and kingdom that will not serve you shall perish; those nations shall be utterly laid waste.
- The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the cypress, the plane, and the pine, to beautify the place of my sanctuary, and I will make the place of my feet glorious.
- The sons of those who afflicted you shall come bending low to you, and all who despised you shall bow down at your feet; they shall call you the City of the Lord, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
- Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, with no one passing through,

 I will make you majestic forever,
 a joy from age to age.
- You shall suck the milk of nations;
 you shall nurse at the breast of kings;
 and you shall know that I, the Lord, am your
 Savior
 - and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.
- Instead of bronze I will bring gold, and instead of iron I will bring silver; instead of wood, bronze, instead of stones, iron. I will make your overseers peace and your taskmasters righteousness.
- Violence shall no more be heard in your land, devastation or destruction within your borders;
 - you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise.
- The sun shall be no more your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give you light;

LESSON 15 ISAIAH 60:1-22

but the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

- Your sun shall no more go down, nor your moon withdraw itself; for the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended.
- Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land forever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands,

that I might be glorified.

The least one shall become a clan, and the smallest one a mighty nation; I am the Lord; in its time I will hasten it.



Behold the Glory Of God | Isaiah 60:1-22

1.	Meditate on Isaiah Isaiah 60:1-22. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	From the following verses, what do you learn about the glory of God: 1 Chronicles 29:11; Psalm 19:1; 24:7-8; Isaiah 42:8; Matthew 24:30; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 4:11?
3.	According to Isaiah 60:1-3, what is the Lord calling Israel to do, and why? How does this apply to Christ followers today? (See also Matthew 5:14-16; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 10:24-25.)
4.	How do the following verses shed light on the darkness described in Isaiah 60:2: Proverbs 4:18-19; Isaiah 5:20; John 3:19-20; 2 Corinthians 4:4?

5.	Reflecting on Isaiah 60:1-3, how are Christ followers equipped to overcome darkness? (See also Psalm 119:11; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 6:10-18; Titus 2:12-14; 1 Peter 5:8-9.)
6.	What does Isaiah 60:4-9 reveal to you about God's character, and how does this encourage you?
7.	What does God promise the Israelites in Isaiah 60:10-16? In what way does the gospel of Jesus Christ extend these promises to believers today, and how does this give you hope? (See also John 3:16; Revelation 7:9.)
8.	How is the glory of God revealed in Isaiah 60:15-22 and Revelation 21:10-11, 22-27? In what ways does the promise of future glory change your daily perspective?
9.	Reread Isaiah 60:1-22. What actions or attitudes will you adopt to reflect God's glory in your life? (See also Romans 11:36.)

Notes	

Isaiah 61:1-62:12

- **61** The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me
 - to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
 - to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound:
- to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;
- to grant to those who mourn in Zion to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
 - the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
 - that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.
- They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.
- 5 Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks; foreigners shall be your plowmen and vinedressers;
- but you shall be called the priests of the Lord; they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God;
 - you shall eat the wealth of the nations, and in their glory you shall boast.
- ⁷ Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion;

instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot;

therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion;

they shall have everlasting joy.

⁸ For I the Lord love justice;

I hate robbery and wrong;

I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

- Their offspring shall be known among the nations,
 - and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;
 - all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed.
- I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,

and as a bride adorns herself with her iewels.

- For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
 - so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise

to sprout up before all the nations.

- **62** For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
 - and her salvation as a burning torch.
- The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name
 - that the mouth of the Lord will give.
- You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
 - and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate,

but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married;

for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

LESSON 15 ISAIAH 61:1-62:12

For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

- On your walls, O Jerusalem,
 I have set watchmen;
 all the day and all the night
 they shall never be silent.
 You who put the Lord in remembrance,
 take no rest,
- 7 and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise in the earth.
- The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm:

 "I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink your wine for which you have labored;
- but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in the courts of my sanctuary."
- Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up a signal over the peoples.
- Behold, the Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth:
 Say to the daughter of Zion,
 "Behold, your salvation comes; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him."
- And they shall be called The Holy People,
 The Redeemed of the Lord;
 and you shall be called Sought Out,
 A City Not Forsaken.



Behold the Restorer | Isaiah 61:1-62:12

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 61:1-62:12. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	What is Israel's condition according to Isaiah 61:1-3? In what ways does God restore them, and why?
3.	Read Isaiah 61:1-2 with Luke 4:16-21; 24:44. How does Jesus' declaration of fulfilling this prophecy give you confidence in God?
4.	Describe Israel's future transformation according to Isaiah 61:3-9. (See also Ezekiel 36:33; Joe 2:25; Amos 9:14; Haggai 2:9.) What does this reveal about the character of God?

5.	How does the covenant with Israel in Isaiah 61:8-11 and Jeremiah 31:31-34 foreshadow the new covenant established by Jesus? (See also Matthew 26:28; Romans 3:22-23; Hebrews 9:14-15; 10:15-17.)
6.	What do you learn about God's unwavering commitment to Israel from Isaiah 62:1-7? How does this give you hope?
7.	What promises are given in Isaiah 62:8-9 and 65:21-22? How do these promises deepen your trust in the Lord?
8.	Read Isaiah 62:2-5, 10-12. How do the future names given to Israel speak of their new character? What responsibilities come with a believer's new identity in Christ? (See also 2 Corinthians 5:17.)
9.	Reread Isaiah 61-62. How are you encouraged by God's promises of restoration?

Notes	

Isaiah 63:1-64:12

- 63 Who is this who comes from Edom, in crimsoned garments from Bozrah, he who is splendid in his apparel, marching in the greatness of his strength? "It is I, speaking in righteousness, mighty to save."
- Why is your apparel red, and your garments like his who treads in the winepress?
- "I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their lifeblood spattered on my garments, and stained all my apparel.
- ⁴ For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and my year of redemption had come.
- I looked, but there was no one to help; I was appalled, but there was no one to uphold;
 - so my own arm brought me salvation, and my wrath upheld me.
- I trampled down the peoples in my anger;
 I made them drunk in my wrath,
 and I poured out their lifeblood on the
 earth."
- I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord, the praises of the Lord,
 - according to all that the Lord has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel
 - that he has granted them according to his compassion,
 - according to the abundance of his steadfast love.
- For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely." And he became their Savior.
- In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

- But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them.
- Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people.
 Where is he who brought them up out of the

with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit,

- who caused his glorious arm
 to go at the right hand of Moses,
 who divided the waters before them
 to make for himself an everlasting name,
 who led them through the depths?
 - Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble.
- Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the Lord gave them rest. So you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.
- Look down from heaven and see, from your holy and beautiful habitation.
 Where are your zeal and your might?
 The stirring of your inner parts and your compassion are held back from me.
- For you are our Father, though Abraham does not know us, and Israel does not acknowledge us; you, O Lord, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name.
- O Lord, why do you make us wander from your ways

and harden our heart, so that we fear you not?

- Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage.
- Your holy people held possession for a little while;
 - our adversaries have trampled down your sanctuary.
- We have become like those over whom you have never ruled,

like those who are not called by your name.

LESSON 17 ISAIAH 63:1-64:12

- **64** Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
 - that the mountains might quake at your presence—
- ² as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil to make your name known to your adversaries,
 - to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence!
- When you did awesome things that we did not look for.
 - you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
- From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.
- You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sing we have been a long time, an
 - in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?
- We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
 - We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
- There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.
- But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.
- Be not so terribly angry, O Lord,
 and remember not iniquity forever.
 Behold, please look, we are all your people.
- Your holy cities have become a wilderness; Zion has become a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.
- Our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised you,

- has been burned by fire, and all our pleasant places have become ruins.
- Will you restrain yourself at these things, O Lord?
 - Will you keep silent, and afflict us so terribly?



Behold the Loving God | *Isaiah 63:1-64:12*

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 63:1-64:12. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	What do you learn about the love of God from the following verses: Psalm 32:10; 36:5; 86:5; Romans 5:8; 8:35-39?
3.	Describe the day of God's vengeance in Isaiah 63:1-6 and Revelation 19:11-16.
4.	Who will be saved from God's wrath according to John 3:36 and Romans 5:7-10; 10:13? In light of God's impending wrath, how are you encouraged to share the gospel with unbelievers?
5.	What does Isaiah 63:7-9 reveal about God's love for Israel? (See also Deuteronomy 7:7-8.) In what ways has God demonstrated his love to you?

6.	How does Isaiah 63:10-14 describe God's grace in the midst of Israel rebelling and grieving the Holy Spirit? In what ways can we keep from grieving the Holy Spirit? (See Ephesians 4:22 32.)
7.	What do you learn about God from the intercessory prayer for Israel in Isaiah 63:15-64:12?
8.	Write a prayer for someone you know using Isaiah 63:15-64:12.
9.	What is the condition of man's heart according to Isaiah 64:6-7 and Jeremiah 17:9? How does this reveal our need for salvation through Christ alone? (See John 14:6; Romans 3:21-25.)
10.	How did Jesus personify the Father's love? (See John 3:16; 1 John 4:7-10.) In what ways does this lesson deepen your love for God?

Notes	

Isaiah 65:1-25

65 I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me:

I was ready to be 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.

I spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices;

 a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and making offerings on bricks;

who sit in tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat pig's flesh,

and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels;

who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all the day.

Behold, it is written before me:
 "I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
 I will indeed repay into their lap

both your iniquities and your fathers' iniquities together,

says the Lord;

because they made offerings on the mountains and insulted me on the hills,

I will measure into their lap payment for their former deeds."

8 Thus says the Lord:

"As the new wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,' so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all.

9 I will bring forth offspring from Jacob, and from Judah possessors of my mountains;

my chosen shall possess it, and my servants shall dwell there.

Sharon shall become a pasture for flocks, and the Valley of Achor a place for herds to lie down,

for my people who have sought me.

But you who forsake the Lord,
who forget my holy mountain,
who set a table for Fortune
and fill cups of mixed wine for Destiny,

I will destine you to the sword, and all of you shall bow down to the slaughter,

because, when I called, you did not answer; when I spoke, you did not listen, but you did what was evil in my eyes and chose what I did not delight in."

Therefore thus says the Lord God: "Behold, my servants shall eat, but you shall be hungry; behold, my servants shall drink, but you shall be thirsty; behold, my servants shall rejoice, but you shall be put to shame;

behold, my servants shall sing for gladness of heart.

> but you shall cry out for pain of heart and shall wail for breaking of spirit.

You shall leave your name to my chosen for a curse,

and the Lord God will put you to death, but his servants he will call by another name,

so that he who blesses himself in the land shall bless himself by the God of truth, and he who takes an oath in the land shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten and are hidden from my eyes.

"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind.

LESSON 18 **ISAIAH 65:1-25**

But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness.

I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years

> and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.

- They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
- They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,

and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord,

and their descendants with them.

- Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.
- The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy

in all my holy mountain," says the Lord.



Behold the Just God | Isaiah 65:1-25

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 65:1-25. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	What do the following verses teach you about God being just: Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalm 96:10-13; 1 John 1:9; Revelation 16:5, 7?
3.	Read Isaiah 65:1 with Luke 15:3-7 and Romans 9:24-26. What does God's initiative reveal?
4.	What are the sins Israel committed against God in Isaiah 65:2-7? How do we keep from following our own desires over a loving relationship with God? (See Proverbs 3:5-7; Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 5:16; Colossians 3:1-2; Hebrews 10:24-25.)
5.	How does Isaiah 65:8-10 reveal God's grace to Israel? (See also Jeremiah 50:20.) How is God's grace extended today? (See Romans 3:23-24; Ephesians 2:8.)

6.	According to Isaiah 65:11-12, what are the consequences for those who forsake the Lord? Knowing this truth, what steps will you take to tell others about Jesus?
7.	Compare the blessings for God's servants with what awaits those who refuse God's grace according to Isaiah 65:13-16? What does this teach you about God? (See Lamentation 3:22-23.)
8.	What promises of God regarding the future are given in Isaiah 65:17-25? Which one is the most encouraging to you, and why?
9.	How do the following verses show God is just in his judgment and yet gracious: Psalm 81:11-16; Isaiah 30:18; Jeremiah 7:24-26; Luke 13:34; Romans 2:4-5; 1 Peter 5:10; 2 Peter 3:9? How is this a warning and/or an encouragement to you?
10.	Reread Isaiah 65:1-25. Knowing God is just and will bring judgment, how are you motivated to personal holiness and evangelism?

Notes	

Isaiah 66:1-24

66 Thus says the Lord:

"Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest?

- All these things my hand has made,
 and so all these things came to be,
 declares the Lord.
 But this is the one to whom I will look:
 he who is humble and contrite in spirit
 and trembles at my word.
- "He who slaughters an ox is like one who kills a man;

he who sacrifices a lamb, like one who breaks a dog's neck;

he who presents a grain offering, like one who offers pig's blood;

he who makes a memorial offering of frankincense, like one who blesses an idol.

These have chosen their own ways, and their soul delights in their abominations:

- I also will choose harsh treatment for them and bring their fears upon them, because when I called, no one answered, when I spoke, they did not listen; but they did what was evil in my eyes and chose that in which I did not delight."
- Hear the word of the Lord,
 you who tremble at his word:
 "Your brothers who hate you
 and cast you out for my name's sake
 have said, 'Let the Lord be glorified,
 that we may see your joy';
 but it is they who shall be put to shame.
- The sound of an uproar from the city!
 A sound from the temple!
 The sound of the Lord,
 rendering recompense to his enemies!

- "Before she was in labor she gave birth;
 before her pain came upon her she delivered a son.
- Who has heard such a thing?
 Who has seen such things?
 Shall a land be born in one day?
 Shall a nation be brought forth in one moment?

For as soon as Zion was in labor she brought forth her children.

Shall I bring to the point of birth and not cause to bring forth?"
says the Lord;
"shall I, who cause to bring forth, shut the womb?"

says your God.

- "Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her;
- that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious abundance."
- For thus says the Lord:

 "Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse, you shall be carried upon her hip,

and bounced upon her knees.

- As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.
- You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bones shall flourish like the grass; and the hand of the Lord shall be known to his servants,

and he shall show his indignation against his enemies.

LESSON 19 ISAIAH 66:1-24

"For behold, the Lord will come in fire, and his chariots like the whirlwind, to render his anger in fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

- For by fire will the Lord enter into judgment, and by his sword, with all flesh; and those slain by the Lord shall be many.
- "Those who sanctify and purify themselves to go into the gardens, following one in the midst, eating pig's flesh and the abomination and mice, shall come to an end together, declares the Lord.

¹⁸ "For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, 19 and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. 20 And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the Lord, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the Lord, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the Lord. 21 And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the Lord.

- "For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name r
- From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the Lord.
- ²⁴ "And they shall go out and look on the dead bodies of the men who have rebelled against me. For their worm shall not die, their fire shall not be quenched, and they shall be an abhorrence to all flesh."



Behold the Exalted One | Isaiah 66:1-24

1.	Meditate on Isaiah 66:1-24. What observations stand out to you? (Look for key verses, repeated words and phrases.)
2.	According to the following verses, why are we to exalt God: 1 Chronicles 29:11-12; Psalm 97:9; Isaiah 25:1; Acts 5:30-31; Philippians 2:9-11?
3.	Focusing on Isaiah 66:1-2, why is God worthy of worship? (See also 1 Kings 8:27; Acts 7:47-50; 17:24; Romans 11:33-34.) How does man attempt to contain God?
4.	Compare true worship with false worship in Isaiah 66:1-6. (See also Isaiah 1:11-17; Proverbs 15:8; Hosea 6:6; John 4:23-24; Romans 12:1.) What does your worship reflect?
5.	How does God encourage those who tremble at His word in Isaiah 66:1-6? What is your response to Scripture when it goes against what you want to do?

6.	What does God reveal about himself in Isaiah 66:7-14? How does this give you a desire to exalt him?
7.	How do you see God's judgment and mercy in Isaiah 66:15-24? How are the recipients of God's mercy called to reflect his glory?
8.	What promises of God regarding the future are given in Isaiah 65:17-25? Which one is the most encouraging to you, and why?
9.	God ended the book of Isaiah with a negative vision in verse 24. How does this give you urgency to tell others about the saving work of Jesus Christ?
10.	Reflect on what God has revealed to you through the study of Isaiah this year. a. What insights are helping you to behold God and follow him daily?
	b. Which attribute of God has made the greatest impact on you?
	c. How has your love for God deepened and expanded to others?
	d. In what new and specific ways are you motivated to exalt God?

Notes	

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

Isaiah 55:10-11

"Nearness to God brings likeness to God. The more you see God the more of God will be seen in you."

Charles Spurgeon

