

Understanding the Book of Isaiah: An Unbelievable Message  
Isaiah 53:1-12 (p. 780)

Intro

I. The \_\_\_\_\_ is an almost \_\_\_\_\_ message:

The book of Isaiah begins during a time of \_\_\_\_\_ with a promise of blessing; Isaiah promises a day of judgment but also a time of \_\_\_\_\_.

*The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the Lord has spoken: "Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me. (1:1,2)*

*It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord...(2:2,3)*

*Enter into the rock and hide in the dust from before the terror of the Lord, and from the splendor of his majesty.... For the Lord of hosts has a day against all that is proud and lofty, against all that is lifted up... (2:10,12)*

*In that day the branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and honor of the survivors of Israel. And he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy, everyone who has been recorded for life in Jerusalem, when the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion.... Then the Lord will create over the whole site of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, and smoke and the shining of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory there will be a canopy. There will be a booth for shade by day from the heat, and for a refuge and a shelter from the storm and rain. (4:2-6)*

In chapter 6, there is the famous \_\_\_\_\_ in which Isaiah is commissioned to deliver a message that the people won't \_\_\_\_\_.

*In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim.... And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" ....And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." And he said, "Go, and say to this people: "'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.' (6:1-3,8,9)*

The Book of Isaiah gives us some of the clearest \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ and some of the most beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ of Scripture.

*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (7:14)*

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. (9:2)*

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (9:6)*

*There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him... (11:1,2)*

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

*You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. (26:3)*

The Lord hears King Hezekiah’s \_\_\_\_\_ and saves Jerusalem from the Assyrians, but then the king “shows off” to envoys from \_\_\_\_\_.

Promises of judgment are again followed by promises of \_\_\_\_\_; the Lord promises His servant will \_\_\_\_\_ people from all the nations.

*Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended...say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!” .... 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. (40:1,2,9,31)*

*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 overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. (43:1,2)*

*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.... 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.” (49:5,6)*

## **II. That God’s servant would \_\_\_\_\_ to save us!**

*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. (52:14)*

The gospel is the almost-unbelievable \_\_\_\_\_ that God’s servant would suffer to cleanse and \_\_\_\_\_ His people.

***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. v.1-5***

He would take the responsibility of our sins upon \_\_\_\_\_; we call this vicarious or \_\_\_\_\_ atonement.

***All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—everyone—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. v.6***

The servant would willingly suffer for our sins, although He was \_\_\_\_\_; it was God's \_\_\_\_\_ for Christ to suffer in our place as a guilt offering.

***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. v.7-11***

Christ's death will be effective—many will be \_\_\_\_\_--and He will live to see the \_\_\_\_\_ of His sacrifice.

***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. v.12***

Christ will be \_\_\_\_\_; He will triumph through death and \_\_\_\_\_ of His death—because of His willingness to give His life to save sinners.

*He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:2)*

*He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:23-24)*

Isaiah concludes with a message of judgment and \_\_\_\_\_: judgment for the proud who rebel, but salvation for the humble who listen and \_\_\_\_\_.

*From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the Lord. "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." (66:23,24)*

***Who has believed what he has heard from us? v.1***

*But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word. (66:2)*

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