

Theme: Isaiah was a man called by God to apply God's Word to the turbulent times in which he lived, and to call God's people to behold God and live with hope in the midst of uncertain and difficult days.

## I. Intro – The Book of Isaiah

- A. Isaiah - Behold the Holy One of Israel
- B. A favorite designation for God in Isaiah
- C. Will not just do 1 verse a week!
- D. Must understand times to understand message

## II. Isaiah the Man and Author

- A. Isaiah the son of Amoz (1:1)
- B. His name means “Yahweh will save”
- C. Jewish tradition - many legends about Isaiah
- D. We know he was devout believer
- E. Enjoyed ready access to kings - royal lineage?
- F. Martyred under Manasseh? (Heb 11:37?)
- G. The book is the recording of Isaiah's vision (1:1)
  - 1. Vision - רָאוּ - always refers to revelation
  - 2. Vision - not natural insight - given by God
  - 3. It is “the word of the Lord” (Micah 1:1)
- H. I take him as author of the whole book

## III. Exploring The Times of Isaiah

- A. Divided kingdom (map) - 2 Chr 25-26; 2 Ki 14-15
  - 1. Shows failure of Israel as God's Kingdom
  - 2. Amaziah of Judah lost to Israel in war
  - 3. Amaziah assassinated - Uzziah becomes king
- B. The 4 kings and their dates (table)
- C. Uzziah's success and power (2 Chr 26:5, 7-8)
- D. Problems under Ahaz - incursions (2Ch 28:5)
- E. Problem - Assyria's rise (4 maps)
  - 1. The cruelty of Assyria - Tiglath-P III quote
  - 2. Within 25 years Israel would be deported!
  - 3. This was a major problem for Judah!

## IV. The Ministry of Isaiah

- A. He spoke to the people of his own times (1:1)
- B. He applied God's Word to their situation - fortelling
- C. Calls for true faith, godly conduct - not just religious rituals (1:12-17)
- D. He speaks to the future - foretelling - most in OT (40-66)
- E. Always calls people to Lord of Hosts, Holy One of Israel!

## V. Applying the Word

## Isaiah - The Man, His Times, and His Ministry

Isaiah 1:1  
Scripture Reading  
April 19, 2009  
Communion  
Benediction

### A. Do we see God's Word is addressed to us today?

1. Many people unduly fascinated with distant future
2. God is concerned that we apply His Word today
3. We do not need Nostradamus - we need Torah applied

### B. Do we have a true, obedient faith?

1. Does our faith transform the way we live?
2. Do we see God wants real relationship - not just ritual?

### C. Do we trust God in midst of uncertain changing times?

1. Isaiah lived and ministered in very uncertain times
2. We need to look to God as our source & foundation
3. We must live out of faith - not fear

### D. The Lord's Supper - All Who Hunger Come for Strength

1. It is open for all to come and receive
2. Nothing else will satisfy - all else is false hope
3. Come eat our covenant meal!

Name of King	Dates of Reign (Including Co-Regency)
Uzziah	792-740 BC
Jotham	750-732 BC
Ahaz	735-715 BC
Hezekiah	729-686 BC

5 He sought God during the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God. As long as he sought the LORD, God gave him success.... 7 God helped him against the Philistines and against the Arabs who lived in Gur Baal and against the Meunites. 8 The Ammonites brought tribute to Uzziah, and his fame spread as far as the border of Egypt, because he had become very powerful.

2 Chronicles 26:5, 7-8

5 Therefore the LORD his God handed him over to the king of Aram. The Arameans defeated him and took many of his people as prisoners and brought them to Damascus. He was also given into the hands of the king of Israel, who inflicted heavy casualties on him.

2 Chronicles 28:5

“The gorges and precipices of the mountains I filled with their bodies.”  
Tiglath-Pileser III (ruled 745-727 BC) - quoted in EJ Young, *The Book of Isaiah*, 11

12 When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? 13 Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations-- I cannot bear your evil assemblies. 14 Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts my soul hates. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. 15 When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are full of blood; 16 wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight! Stop doing wrong, 17 learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.

Isaiah 1:12-17