



*ENCOUNTERING GOD THROUGH HIS*

# P R O M I S E







A STUDY OF

*ISAIAH*

*HIS*

PRO





MISSE

*WILL NEVER FAIL*

HOW THIS WORKS

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*THIS IS A 5-DAY  
BIBLE STUDY. READ  
THE SCRIPTURE 5  
TIMES/WEEK AND  
RESPOND TO THE  
QUESTIONS.*

## 01 **SUMMARIZE**

Read and re-read the chapter several times. After you have read the passage multiple times, write a summary: paraphrase it, outline it, or rewrite it in your own words.

## 02 **OBSERVE**

Look at the details in every sentence and word. Write down everything you see – names, words that stand out, objects, etc... What is the author saying? What is he trying to convey? What does it say about God?

## 03 **REFERENCE**

Are there other scriptures in the Bible that might address this topic or issue as well? What other wisdom do they offer?

## 04 **REVIEW**

Review the passage again as well as the first three days' questions and answers. Write down any concluding thoughts you may have about the passage.

## 05 **APPLY**

How might this passage apply to life? Consider the conclusions that you drew in Day 4 and how you can apply them to your life this week.



WEEK 1

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# ISAIAH

*BY DAKOTA Z.*

**IN ISAIAH 6, THERE IS AN ASTOUNDING REVELATION OF GOD IN HIS THRONE ROOM. SO HOLY AND GRAND WAS ISAIAH'S ENCOUNTER THAT HE ACTUALLY THOUGHT IT WAS THE END OF HIS LIFE.**

He sees the sovereign King high and lifted up and says, "Woe is me! For I am a man of unclean lips!" (Is. 6:5). He gets a vision of the sovereign Lord and sees angels flying around, covering their faces, and proclaiming to one another the holiness of this King. Isaiah encounters the glory of the Lord, and it brings him face to face with his sin. He encounters a God that is so big and grand that all he can do

is recount how sinful he is. Isaiah can only respond with repentance at the holiness of God.

When we come face to face with the holiness of God, we can only see our inability. We see our deep and desperate need for His grace to come to us, for we are those of unclean lips and unclean hearts. Yet, He does not call us to clean ourselves up so that we might measure up to Him; as with Isaiah, God makes provision for our sin. We encounter His goodness and provision in and through Christ Jesus. Because of Jesus and His sacrifice, our guilt is taken away, and our sin atoned. To encounter God's holiness is to always come to the end of one's self. As you come to the end of yourself, look to His provision in Christ to take away your guilt and sin.

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WEEK 2

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# ISAIAH

*BY VICKI C.*

**HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT THERE SEEMS TO BE AN INCREASING NUMBER OF APOCALYPTIC FILMS BEING PRODUCED? MANKIND'S OBSESSION WITH END-TIMES HAS PRODUCED OVER 58 SUCH MOVIES JUST IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS.**

From zombies, apes, and aliens to incurable viruses, nuclear war, and extreme climate change, there seems to be no limit to our imaginations when it comes to speculating about how the world will end.

In this week's passage of study, however, the prophet Isaiah quiets our imaginations regarding how it might happen and turns our focus instead to some things we can know

will definitely happen when the Lord returns to earth to set up His kingdom forever. Just look at some of these "will" statements in Isaiah 25:

- strong peoples WILL glorify You (v.3)
- cities of ruthless nations WILL fear You (v.3)
- He WILL swallow up death forever (v.8)
- God WILL wipe away tears from all faces (v.8)
- He WILL take away the reproach of His people (v.8)
- it WILL be said on that day, "This is the Lord; we have waited for Him, let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation!"

Won't you give your imagination a rest, for now, about the end times and instead park your mind and faith on these definitive statements? Let's drop the endless pursuit of what might happen and instead join Isaiah's praise to God in 25:1 for His plan that is "formed of old, faithful, and sure."

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**“COMFORT, COMFORT TO MY PEOPLE” (IS. 40:1). THE COMFORT ISAIAH SPEAKS OF COMES ONLY FROM GOD’S REVELATION OF HIMSELF TO HIS PEOPLE. IN FACT, THE WHOLE OF ISAIAH 40 IS GOD’S DECLARATION OF HIMSELF. ISAIAH ASKS HIS READERS, “TO WHOM THEN WILL YOU LIKEN GOD? OR WHAT LIKENESS COMPARE HIM WITH?” (IS. 40:18).**

Isaiah brings the reader face to face with the reality of God’s grandness and goodness with whom and with which there is no comparison. When it comes to us, Isaiah declares, “All flesh is like grass, and the grass dries up” (Is. 40:8). Yet, when it comes to

the Lord he writes, “Do you not know, have you not heard, the LORD is the everlasting God” (Is. 40:28). We are like grass, and wither, yet the Lord is everlasting. We are like the grass, we are like grasshoppers, yet there is no comparison for the Lord. He is everlasting.

In this encounter with the everlasting, magnificent God, we see just how insignificant we are. And yet He gave His only Son for us. The Creator of the universe cares about you, and the best part is this: He never ends, He never changes, and neither does His love or comfort for us.

Will you seek to encounter the everlasting God, the one who does not fade, who does not change, who brings comfort to those who fade and wither? Will you take a moment to consider just how incredible our God is? And will you stand in awe of His great love and comfort for you?



WEEK 3

ISAIAH

BY DAKOTA Z.



WEEK 4

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# ISAIAH

*BY EDGAR G.*

**HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY GOD DOES CERTAIN THINGS IN YOUR LIFE? THINGS THAT JUST DON'T MAKE SENSE, ARE FRUSTRATING, OR AT THE VERY LEAST PUZZLING OFTEN LEAVE US FEELING BEREFT OF ANSWERS.**

Life seems incongruent with your expectations of God. These moments can be hard, and you may find yourself questioning God's involvement in your life.

The people of Israel experienced those moments. In this case, however, their disobedience provoked God's discipline of them, and He used the nation of Syria to bring forth that discipline. They were taken captive by King Cyrus whom God calls "my servant" in Isaiah 45. Why would God use a non-believer, and even call him "my servant," when he was to be the punishing agent of Israel?

God says clearly in verse 4 that it was for the sake of Israel that He was allowing this to happen, even though Cyrus did not acknowledge Him. Furthermore, He says that this was so that "people may know there is none besides me. I am the Lord, and there is no other. I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the Lord, do all these things."

In every part of our lives, God demonstrates His sovereign will. He can use whomever and whatever He wants to identify Himself and display His glory. Our life is in His hands. Everything. Good moments. Bad moments. God seeks to show himself in our lives as Lord.

You may be going through trouble, or you may be experiencing relative ease in life right now. Spend some time in prayer acknowledging God as the one who is control of your life. Ask Him to help you trust Him. Thank Him for what He will do in your life to make Himself known.

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A black and white photograph of a mountain landscape. The foreground is a calm body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river. The middle ground is filled with a thick mist or fog that obscures the lower parts of the mountains. In the background, the mountain peaks are visible, covered in dense evergreen forests. A large, dark, stylized graphic of the numbers '53' is overlaid on the center of the image. The number '5' is on the left and the '3' is on the right. The text 'WEEK 5' is centered between the two numbers, and the word 'ISAIAH' is written in large, bold, white capital letters across the middle of the '5' and '3'. Below 'ISAIAH' is the text 'BY DANIEL E.' in a smaller, italicized font.

WEEK 5

ISAIAH

*BY DANIEL E.*

**THE FIRST WORD THAT COMES TO MIND WHEN I READ ISAIAH 53 IS HUMBLER BECAUSE THIS PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE HUMBLER ME TO THE POINT OF DESIRING TO SUBMIT TO THE LORD AND ALL HIS WAYS.**

There is so much packed into these twelve verses, but a couple of themes that go hand-in-hand stand out to me: perspective and sovereignty.

In verses 4 and 5, Isaiah uses the sacrifice of Christ as a way to show us how God has a completely different perspective than we do when it comes to His ways. We can easily consider that the death of Christ was God's punishment as Jesus was stricken by Him and afflicted. How could a loving Father put a criminal's death upon a perfect representation of Himself? But God sees it as Jesus being pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities. This punishment, which we see as being reserved for anyone other than Christ, brought us peace with God the Father. Christ's wounds bring us healing. What we see as

cruel is God's way of redeeming. "Our thoughts are not His thoughts and our ways are not His ways" (Isaiah 55:8).

When we realize and believe that our outlook on things is often not as God intends, we fail to understand the expanse of God's sovereignty. Verse 10 enlightens us that it was His will to crush Jesus and cause Jesus to suffer. Think about that. The Lord's will was for Jesus to suffer so that we could be made right with God the Father! How loving is the Father that he would cause His own Son to suffer so that you and I could have peace with God? That's a King and His sovereignty I can submit to, follow, and trust. Because God is sovereign, I can know that, whatever happens to me in this life, I will be okay. I will be okay because God is ultimately in control. Nothing happens that surprises Him, and I don't have to choose to worry about what is going to happen next.

Think about where you are today. Are you finding solace and refuge in God's ways? Or are you at a place where you continually choose to worry and are missing out on the comforting and peaceful rest of God's sovereignty? Choose peace today by choosing to trust completely in God's ways.

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## TRAVEL THE WORLD AND YOU WILL DISCOVER THERE IS BUT ONE THING THAT WILL COST YOU NOTHING.

It transcends citizenship, culture, and customs. No one country owns it. No amount of wealth, status, corruption, or gimmicks will obtain it. The instructions are simple: guests come with nothing, everything is prepared, and you must come as you are. That one free thing is the Gospel - the saving grace of a relationship with Christ that frees us from death and sin.

Isaiah 55 is a continued celebration of the prophecy revealed to him of what Jesus Christ would provide for the world. Isaiah wants us to understand that the guest table is ready, and salvation is available for all who will come. He also tells us that those who do not believe will continue investing their lives in causes that are of no value and are unsatisfying. A prime example is international persecution that Christians encounter from unbelievers who are committed to an erroneous cause that will never satisfy their thirst to end the Gospel.

Did you know that evil intentions from unbelievers have made Christians the most persecuted religious group in the world? Mistaken unbelievers are hurling persecution on Christians

at a disturbing rate, murdering an average of 180 Christ-followers each month. Our immediate response to persecution as Christ-followers is frequently to pray, "Make it stop," pleading with God to remove the persecution and make life easier for the persecuted. However, persecuted Christians are not asking us to pray for the persecution to cease. Instead, they routinely ask that we pray for supernatural strength to endure the persecution. We stand corrected and are reminded in Isaiah 55:8-9 that our thoughts and ways are not God's thoughts or ways.

There is a reason that where persecution continues to exist, we see the number of Christ-followers multiplying rapidly. God, in His infinite wisdom, has transformed the evil intentions of persecutors into good that will not cease. Be encouraged by the persecuted church! Empowered by the Holy Spirit, their hope is not here on earth. It is Jesus Christ who will rule and reign on a new earth.

As you reflect on Isaiah 55, who are the international people groups persecuting others that you can pray for regularly? Who are the persecuted people groups that you will pray for now? If you are unsure who to pray for, visit Voice of the Martyrs prayer list at [www.persecution.com/pray](http://www.persecution.com/pray).



WEEK 6

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# ISAIAH

*BY STEPHEN W.*



WEEK 7

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# ISAIAH

*BY DANNY L.*

## THE TERM “REMEDY” IS A WORD WE OFTEN USE TO DESCRIBE SOMETHING THAT CURES AN ILL.

Webster explains a remedy as, “a way of solving or correcting a problem.” This is important to understand because Isaiah dedicates his 61st chapter to clarifying God’s remedy for all of humanity.

Why is a remedy needed? It is safe to say that most people, regardless of gender, race, culture, or religious affiliation, believe there is something inherently wrong with the world. Just take 5 minutes to read the news, and you will grasp the sobering reality that something is wrong with humanity.

Not only do we acknowledge that something is wrong with the world, but we all believe that we know who is to blame for the upended nature of the world. Some believe it’s the wealthy who are to blame, while others believe the poor are responsible. Some believe it’s the liberals who are to blame, while others believe it’s the conservatives. And some believe it’s the Longhorns who are to blame, while others believe it’s the Aggies.

Everyone sees humanity’s problem, everyone has an opinion on who’s to blame, but very few understand all of us are the problem. In the early 1900’s, G.K. Chesterton understood this when he responded to a headline in The Times that read, “What Is Wrong with the World?” To which Chesterton replied, “Dear Sir, I am.” The Bible clearly explains that all of us are broken, messed up, sinful human beings, which is the core problem with the world.

But herein lies the beauty of Isaiah 61: there is One who is the remedy to our broken sinfulness! Almost 800 years after Isaiah’s proclamation, Jesus quotes Isaiah 61 and asserts that He will bind our brokenness, supply us liberty, and free us from the spiritual imprisonment of sin (Luke 4:17-21). He is the remedy!

Pause for a moment and think about how amazing this is! Consider that we, yes, all of us, are the problem with the world, yet Jesus is the sufficient and true remedy for each of us! Have you encountered Jesus as your true remedy?

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WEEK 8

# ISAIAH

*BY BETTY O.*

**YEARS AGO I ENROLLED  
IN A PERSPECTIVES ON  
THE WORLD CHRISTIAN  
MOVEMENT COURSE  
OFFERED BY GRACE.  
THE BEGINNING OF  
THE COURSE LAYS A  
BIBLICAL FOUNDATION,  
MAINTAINING THAT  
MISSION IS DEEPLY  
ROOTED IN THE HEART  
OF GOD.**

God's heart has always been for the nations. He promised to bless Abraham and his descendants, to curse those who curse them, and ultimately that all the nations of the earth would be blessed through Abraham's seed (Genesis 12:1-3). As God's light to the nations, Israel was to point them to the hope of the coming Messiah and invite them to enter into the eternal blessing only He could provide.

A similar message of judgment and hope is found in Isaiah 66. Judgment will come for those who stubbornly "have chosen their own ways," and God's "fury will be shown to His foes"

(vv. 3, 14). However, God's ultimate desire is not judgment. Rather, it is that all the nations of the earth might be blessed. To that end, He will send His people to proclaim His glory to distant lands that have not heard of His fame, and they will bring them back from the nations as an offering to the Lord (vv. 19, 20).

What a beautiful picture! Our witness to the nations to rescue them from judgment and bring them into the blessing of God is depicted not only as an act of obedience, but as an offering to the Lord: an act of worship. In Romans 12:1, we are told to give the sacrificial offering of ourselves, holy and pleasing to God, as our reasonable form of worship. However, in Isaiah 66: 20, as an act of worship we bring an offering of others - those we have sought out, those who have not known of God's fame or glory, those who the Holy Spirit has brought to Christ through the testimony of our lips and our lives.

Being a light to the nations isn't a matter of geography, it's a heart matter. A heart who worships is ready to go to the ends of the earth or right next door.

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**A BIBLE STUDY *by* GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**