



Prophets and Kings: An Old Testament Study

High Meadow Ranch Men's Bible Study | A 16-lesson study

Lesson #1: Isaiah (September 1, 2026)

This is our first lesson in our in-depth study of the Old Testament prophets and kings. In this lesson we're going to do a deep dive into the book, life, and ministry of **Isaiah**. As we'll do throughout this series, we'll reference the two (2) resources¹ you've been given (please use these and bring them with you to our study).

The book of Isaiah presents a powerful message of judgment, hope, and salvation. Isaiah ministered primarily to Judah during a time of spiritual rebellion, political instability, and growing threats from foreign nations. He warned that Judah's sin, idolatry, injustice, and failure to trust God would bring judgment, including eventual exile. Yet judgment is not Isaiah's final message. Throughout the book, God promises restoration for His people and reveals His sovereign plan to redeem them.

Isaiah contains some of the Old Testament's clearest prophecies concerning the coming Messiah, describing Him as Immanuel, the righteous King, the suffering Servant, and the One who would bear the sins of others. The book repeatedly emphasizes God's holiness, faithfulness, and absolute sovereignty over nations and history. Isaiah ultimately looks beyond Israel's immediate circumstances toward a future of redemption, restoration, and peace, culminating in God's promise of new heavens and a new earth.

Prophet:	Isaiah
Years of Ministry:	760 to 673 B.C. (67 years)
National Focus:	Judah
Concurrent Kings:	Uzziah (Azariah): 792 to 740 B.C. Jotham: 750 to 732 B.C. Ahaz: 735 to 716 B.C. Hezekiah: 716 to 687 B.C. Manasseh: 697 to 643 B.C.
Key Points & Observations:	• The first part of the book (Chapters 1-39) addresses events related to the reigns of Ahaz and Hezekiah, as well as Judah's coming judgment. • The second part of the book (Chapters 40-55) speak within the context of the judgment, specifically the time of the Babylonian exile, and God's promise of subsequent deliverance under the reign of Cyrus (Isaiah 44:28 and 45:1). • The third part of the book (Chapters 56-66) describes a new community of God's people (539 BC and beyond).

A progression through Isaiah takes us from *God's holiness* to the *promised Messiah* to the *Suffering Servant* to *trusting God* to *ultimate restoration*. It's a progression that should manifest itself in our lives from where we start to appreciate God's holiness to understanding the need for restoration that is only possible through the saving blood of Jesus.

¹ *Beginner's Introduction to the Old Testament Prophets of the Bible* and ROSE Publishing's *Kings & Prophet's Timeline*.

1. Read Isaiah 6:1–8 that discusses Isaiah's encounter with God.
 - a. What does Isaiah's reaction to seeing the Lord reveal about God's holiness and our sinfulness?

 - b. How should an awareness of God's holiness affect the way we live?

2. Read Isaiah 7:14, 9:6–7, and 11:1–5 that discuss the promised Messiah.
 - a. What do Isaiah's prophecies teach us about the identity and character of the predicted Messiah?

 - b. Which of the descriptions in these passages clearly point toward Jesus?

3. The Suffering Servant is clearly articulated in Isaiah 53 and is one of the most powerful descriptions of what Jesus faced on the cross. Knowing what you know about Jesus' suffering on the cross, where do you observe fulfillment in Isaiah 53? An example would be "But he was pierced for our transgressions" is a reference to the crucifixion, including the nails in His hands and feet, and the sword that was thrust into His side by the Roman soldier.

4. Read Isaiah 36–37. King Hezekiah faced an overwhelming threat from Assyria. What can we learn from his response about trusting God when circumstances appear hopeless?

5. God's "ultimate plan" is highlighted in Isaiah 65:17–25 and 66:22. Isaiah ends by looking beyond judgment and restoration to something much greater. What does God's promise of "new heavens and a new earth" tell us about where His plan of redemption is ultimately headed?