



Series: Bible Survey

Lesson: 32. Isaiah 40–66

- **Review**

- Main themes:
 - The supremacy of the Holy One of Israel
 - God's relationship with *all* of Creation
 - Judgment and restoration
 - The coming Messiah
- Isaiah 1–12 shows the 'big picture' of God's case against Judah and the future that awaited them after that had been dealt with, Isaiah's vision of God's holiness and his call to preach to a stubborn people, and how God used one king's faithlessness to show how the coming King would be God's way of making all things right on the earth.
- Isaiah 13–39 reveals judgments on Israel's neighbors for their arrogance, woes upon Israel for her immorality and reliance on human strength, and the key 'bridge' to the book where God brought chastisement through Assyria, delivered Jerusalem, and prophesied the Babylonian captivity.

- **Who Is _____? (40–48)**

- This section begins with a short introduction (11 verses) sharing that the prophesied judgment will not be the final word and establishing a shift in tone focused more on hope and blessing overall.
- The central message of this part is that in order to inherit their glorious future, Israel needed to once and for all worship the one true God *alone* instead of giving any legitimacy to _____.
- In order to prove His supremacy as the only real God, there are several passages extolling various excellencies of His that nothing else in existence can match:
 - His transcendence over all the physical Creation
 - His inexhaustible strength
 - His ability to defeat any enemy on behalf of His people
 - His foreknowledge
 - His perfect Servant Who will bring perfect justice
 - His inescapable punishment of those who anger Him
 - His salvation and protection of Israel
 - His Spirit that will be poured out on their descendants
 - His eternal nature
 - His forgiveness and redemption
 - His establishment of foreign rulers
 - His creation of everything

- His open declaration of His nature and will
 - His ability to bring down the most powerful nation on earth
 - His mercy to obstinate people because of His faithfulness
- There is great theology contained in these chapters, but it is expounded here as reasons why we should trust God and see how foolish it is to think anything else controls our lives.
- **Salvation Through the _____ (49–54)**
 - This part consists of parallel tracks prophesying both Israel’s redemption, as well as the suffering and work of the Messiah.
 - It is important to remember that this is futuristic.
 - These parallel tracks serve to show that everything Israel anticipates will be accomplished through the Messiah—but at a cost.
 - God speaks with affection for and commitment to both Israel and the Servant, making the decision to sacrifice the Servant for the people much more poignant.
 - The people are passive recipients of God’s grace, but the Servant actively chooses to honor God by enduring His fate.
 - The many specific details of the Servant’s *physical* suffering fulfilled in Christ’s first advent serve to prove that Jesus fulfills the _____ needs also prophesied.

- Israel's rejection of the Messiah explains why not everything prophesied has happened even though God said their chastisement was over and blessing would begin.

- **The Appeal to _____ (55–66)**
 - This part begins with calls to respond in faith: this is the logical follow-up to all that has been revealed.

 - Those are followed by final warnings against unrighteousness: this gives the _____ for a response.

 - It ends with prophecies about the final judgment and new earth: this provides the eschatological backdrop for the need to respond.

Discussion:

1. Why is it so important for us to learn *about* God?

2. Why is there so much Old Testament prophecy about the Messiah?

FOR REFLECTION: How does your eschatology change the way you view your life?
How does that affect your actions?

Blanks: God, idols, Servant, spiritual, Respond, urgency