

# ISAIAH PROPHECIES FOR MODERN TIMES I – ELM MAR 1998

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These notes, composed from 2013 on, are based on taped lectures given between 1977 and 1997 by Dr. Ernest L. Martin, Ph.D., formerly the Head of Theology for the Worldwide Church of God; he resigned in January 1974 because of his unresolved doctrinal issues with the administration. Sadly Dr. Martin died in January 2002, a great loss to the world and to those who seek Biblical truth.

The book of Isaiah was found complete among the Dead Sea Scrolls, which helps to prove the reliability of the Bible. It is frequently quoted in the New Testament. It is almost as important as John to which it could be compared.

It contains detailed prophecies which foretold of Christ's birth, despised and rejected of men, His death and crucifixion.

The New Testament contains many quotations from the book of Isaiah, and even in the Book of Revelation.

Full of flamboyant prophecies of blood, fire, tears, and amazing signs, a creed in many ways. It contains some of the most tender references to Israel also. All doctrines are here, God's approach to Judah and Israel, God's plan of salvation for all is revealed in this book, and that it embraces the Gentiles.

Isaiah is a microcosm of the whole Bible. It is in two sections, the first 22 and the second 27 chapters = 49 or 7x7, like the Old and New Testament number of books in the original inspired order and the Divine Canon.

Ezra arranged the order of the 22 books of the Old Testament each of which agrees with a Hebrew letter in order. Although we have them in the KJV as 39, the text is the same. The 22 books of the Old Testament and 27 of the New provides the Divine symmetry, 22+27 = 49 or 7x7 of His inspired instructions for human beings.

The Bible is made up of the The Law = 5, then six books Joshua – Judges as one book, then one book which we now have as Samuel 1&2 and Kings 1&2, and Chronicles 1&2. Then Isaiah (8<sup>th</sup> Century) 1<sup>st</sup> of Major Prophets, Jeremiah (beginning 7<sup>th</sup> Century) and Ezekiel (6<sup>th</sup> Century) = 3 Then the 12 Minor Prophets reckoned to be one book on one scrolls, 6 Prophetic books in all.

In Leviticus Moses had 5 woes, 5 books, 5 books of Psalms,

Understanding these numerical principles increases understanding. Isaiah brings xxx in chronological order. Isaiah prophesied over a period of 60 years and saw three invasions of the Assyrians. Isaiah twinned Micah, and even spoke and wrote some of the same words under Divine inspiration.

He was contemporary to Assyria rising in power in the Babylon area. The 'Babylon' system introduced in Isaiah will exist until the end of the age, the second advent. Revelation also mentions Babylon at the end time.

Jerome changed the order from 22 books to 39 books.

The God inspired book of Isaiah is 66 books as now arranged. The chapter breaks are not inspired. 2 Major sections - chapter breaks were put in by man and are not inspired. The 1<sup>st</sup> 39 (actually 22!) chapters are thought of as '1<sup>st</sup> Isaiah' with blood and thunder themes, God's Divine judgement on Israel, and prophecies of Egypt Olam, etc.

'2<sup>nd</sup> Isaiah' 40-66 27 (!) in number and has a New Testament theme. 40 begins a distinct N.T. theme: Comfort ye, comfort ye my people (Judah)... 2 Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

vs 3 is quoted in the New Testament by John the Baptist who was the last prophet of the O.T. and the first of the N.T.

Isaiah 40:3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Warfare is coming to an end. Christ comes in war, but is the Prince of Peace. Chapter 66 talks about the reconciliation of the human race to God.

Some scholars (?) say that there were two writers of Isaiah, because the two sections are so diverse, but this is not so, just two styles.

The name Isaiah is a variation of Joshua which means Yah is God = salvation and is from YHVH. Joshua = Yashua. Moses gave Law, Christ brought in the transition from the Law and gave us Grace. Joshua carried on Moses' work. Isaiah inspired Hezekiah. Similar also to the name Hosea = salvation, a linkage showing the thread of continuance.

Isaiah prophesied for about a sixty year period, in the time of King Ahaz, and went through a very traumatic period of Israel's history, including three different invasions. Micah was almost a twin prophet, who did the same social customs, and used similar themes.

Several of the prophets use the 5-fold pattern. The number five is evident in several places in the scriptures. Moses gave the law in five books, he used the device to show increased a five-fold severity of punishments. The Psalms are in five books. Isaiah also used the theme of fives.

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### ISAIAH in MODERN TIMES Part II April 1998

Isaiah is one of the most important prophets for those of us who are living in this era. It covers a lot of the history of Isaiah's time, but also contains many prophecies which take us right up to the second advent and beyond.

Isaiah was contemporary with Micah. There is a great deal to say about events that are coming up for us, many prophecies, predictions given under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit are contained in this book. Universal peace is prophesied to come on this earth, but lots of things have to happen before that can come to pass.

The three major prophets, with Isaiah which is the longest. It is very different from its content and design from all other books in the Bible. God is showing us things through this book that cannot be found anywhere else in the Bible.

The first 39 chapters have an OT theme, and the next 27 introduce the NT theme.

Israel is going to come out well when they finally repent of their sins.

Israel at the beginning of Isaiah is in a condemned state, and in degradation, and later glorify Israel more than any other people, but at the end of the book, their degradation is left hanging in judgement.

When Ezra in the 5<sup>th</sup> Century put the prophets in order, he put Isaiah first. We follow the Egyptian order of the books in the KJV which is completely wrong.

Israel he says, looked good on the surface, all right with their Sabbaths, Holy Days, and other religious practices, but in fact fell into depravity, debauchery, and degradation while appearing holy from outward appearances. Then speaks of the wonderful future of Israel in glowing terms, more glowing than anywhere else, They are still in depravity, debauchery, and degradation to this day.

The first chapter contains a sort of 'table of contents', not really but it gives and Micah chapter 2 and Isaiah chapter 4 are almost identical.

Title, then the table of contents, then the index.

This is going mostly to Judah, but also to Israel for about a sixty year period.

In the second part of Isaiah he says that the things that have happened previously will happen again in the future. Cyclical repetition is a feature of prophecy. Things go in cycles.

John (Christ) picked up some of these threads from Isaiah in the Book of Revelation.

Writing 750 years before Christ, Isaiah is telling how Christ will come, 7-12 chapters, then in 52 and 53, he is speaking again of Christ who will be born of a virgin. The apostles looked at these prophecies with awe. Isaiah, his name is very important, it means salvation is of Yah.

He has to show the state of Judah, Israel and of the world. God is going to save them in the end.

God has a very dysfunctional family!!

Isaiah 1:1 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. 2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Lord hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me. 3 The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider. 4 Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

Right here in the beginning, God is saying that he had a special nation, and look what they did, they rebelled against me – big time. All the time, the first chapter shows not how they looked to others, or seemed, but how their heart really was.

Isaiah 1:5 Why should ye be stricken (punished) any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. (Punishment did not work!) 6 From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment. 7 Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers. 8 And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.

Almost total desolation, just a shed to look after a patch of cucumbers left like on an allotment!

Isaiah 1:9 Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah. 10 Hear the word of the Lord, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.

But there is still a small remnant. Isaiah's son was called Shearjashub which means a 'remnant'!

Isaiah 7:3 Then said the Lord unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub (a remnant) thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field;

Chapter 2:5 O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord. 6 Therefore thou hast forsaken thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the east, and are soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers (multi-culturalism!). 7 Their land also is full of silver and gold (money mad bankers), neither is there any end of their treasures; their land is also full of horses (who own the horses of the sport of kings?), neither is there any end of their chariots (cars, yachts, planes!); 8 Their land also is full of idols (which people do not recognize as such they are so part of the 'Christian' religious 'establishment' ); they worship the work of their own hands (the traditional strange garb, hats and coats, haircuts), that which their own fingers have made:

Just take a look at orthodox Jewry or Churchianity today, they are still in the state of degradation as far away from their Creator as they were in Isaiah's time. Humans, especially stiff necked Israelites, never learn, even with extreme punishment that does not seem to work either.

## Part II Side B

Isaiah chapter 1 is much like a table of contents, not listing topics as such but is an overview of the whole book which covers from his time in the 8<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to the time of the second coming of Christ.

God through Isaiah emphasises the wickedness of humankind, and the fact that from Adam through Moses to Isaiah's time, to Paul's time and on the second coming of Christ, that people always rebel against God even when they think they are doing Him a service!

Paganism has always infiltrated every attempt of men to worship their Creator, although if asked any 'religious' person would resent the suggestion. Ask any Christian today if he feels he is offering pagan methods of worship to God, and he would be offended, especially if such a person kept the Sabbath and the Holy Days, and the laws of clean and unclean meats!

But what God is saying here is "your attitude is all wrong, your heart is not right." Just because you think that doing your best to keep the law, it is not what I wanted because you think that you are doing something right towards your salvation and you are not, Christ had to do it for you; AND you in churchianty, although you may not have realized it, you have added all sorts of pagan ideas to your worship of Me and those practices are a stench in My nostrils.

Isaiah 1:1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, you, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Isaiah prophesied over a period of about 47 years.

Isaiah 1:2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Lord hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

From Adam through Moses, to Paul, and now to today, and on to the second advent, mankind has always rebelled against God's wishes.

Isaiah 1:3 The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider. 4 Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

The more people think they are following God, the further from Him they go in their attempt to make **their** form of worship impress God. Even and especially those who attempt to obey any parts of the Mosaic Law in our era!

Isaiah 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Isaiah 1:5 Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. 6 From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.

What is the point of further punishment? You will only rebel even more!!

Isaiah 1:7 Your country is (will be) desolate, your cities are (will be) burned with fire: your land, strangers (multi-culturalism) devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers (heathens from other lands!). 8 And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.

Only a tiny little shack will be left, just big enough to look after a bed of cucumbers in a besieged city. Almost total destruction!

Isaiah 1:9 Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah. 10 Hear the word of the Lord, ye rulers of Sodom (Jerusalem!) ; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah (Jerusalem!).

Here Jerusalem is being compared to Sodom. Then as now! No wonder, because in our era, around the world, sodomy is being accepted, lauded by people who have "gay pride" parades, accepted by the governments and enjoyed by the general public alike. Those who practice sodomy or

lesbianism, have those who do not on the run!! Normal marriage is now under sustained attack.

How sick is that! Indeed it is truly like the days of Sodom and Gomorrah, when the public wanted Lot to put the angels out of his house so that the mob could sodomise them!!

Isaiah 1:11 To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the Lord: I am full of (or fed up with) the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

They were doing all the mechanics of service to God in the Temple, but their attitude was all wrong.

Isaiah 1:12 When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts? 13 Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and (your) sabbaths, the calling of (your) assemblies, I cannot (be doing with it) away with; it is iniquity (sin), even the solemn meeting.

Even the delightful smell of incenses of Jasmine and Frankinsense are a stench in my nostrils says God. Even their services are sin! Especially those 'fundamental' type sects who think they keep the Sabbaths and the Holy Days etc.

Isaiah 1:14 Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth (strong word!): they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

So for all your Sabbath 'keeping', your 'keeping' of the Holy Days, your tithing (which is now a sin in this era!!), indeed all your attempts to keep the law are an offense to me because you have not recognized the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and His giving you Grace, and the opportunity of a completely new relationship with God. Also all those who keep Lent, Easter, and Christmas too. In fact you have all shut your minds to it, and so God has shut your minds to it too!!!

Isaiah 1:15 And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, (You can pray and fast) I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

This is because you have not really accepted the blood of Christ and His grace, you have tried to do it yourselves, which is impossible.

Isaiah 1:16 Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;

“Wash you.” This is referring to true baptism of the Holy Spirit, where you really understand and accept that Christ has made you clean, and you no longer have to attempt to ‘wash yourself’, Christ did it for you. Are they likely to stop doing what they are doing? No!!

Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

This is the new covenant, that we love one another! Are the people who think they are the “true church of God” doing this? It does not appear so. The evidence shows they are so very far from it.

Isaiah 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. 19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

The fantastic offer is on the table, but it is conditional. (There is no such thing as the ‘New Age’ notion inspired by Satan that “unconditional love” exists in this lifetime. Satan wishes there were such a thing! There has to be a change of attitude, a realization that one has not really been willing and obedient to God’ s wishes.

Isaiah 65:3 A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick;

Isaiah 66:17 They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord.

Human beings think that by doing ‘religious’ things, they can ‘sanctify’ themselves, but that is ludicrous. It is no good pointing the finger at others, we need to look into the mirror and point at ourselves, as we have all been there and done it to one degree or another! Especially even when we thought we were ‘keeping God’s laws’ to the best of our ability, we were completely guilty of “chattah” the sin of missing the mark, and were so far from ‘sanctifying’ ourselves it was pathetic.

Isaiah 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. 19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

Here is the absolute promise of benefits, the things everyone wants including peace.

Isaiah 1:20 But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

I have come to the end of My Patience says the Lord. Here it is, no 'unconditional love' here. Either you do it my way, or here comes trouble.

Isaiah 1:21 How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. 22 Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water: 23 Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves (stealing tithes is theft): every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards (the money that comes in that they use for their own purposes in the "work" which is not the work of God): they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them.

Is the third tithe collected by some denominations only used for the original purpose of help to widows and/or orphans, or is it 'lost' in the accounting systems of the 'work'.

Isaiah 1:24 Israel, Ah, I will ease me (by bowel movements) of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies: 25 And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin:

Isaiah 1:29 For they shall be ashamed of the oaks (made into phallic idols) which ye have desired, and ye shall be confounded for the gardens that ye have chosen.

### ISAIAH III – MAY 1998

The book of Isaiah is not only prophetic, but is also doctrinal and theological. It contains information on all the major doctrines, that no law can be used to justify human beings, and even foretells the transition from the law, mankind's redemption and Christ's bringing in grace and forgiveness for all.

God's laws were good and beautiful, but mankind failed miserably to see their real value, embrace them and take them to heart, with tragic consequences.

During the time period of nearly sixty years when Isaiah was prophesying, the Assyrians were rising in power, and Israel who had allied themselves with Syria and their pagan ways, had to deal with three invasions and deportations.

Judah managed to hold out for another 100 years until they were invaded and taken into captivity by the Babylonians.

Isaiah is more about Christ than almost any other book.

Isaiah 1:1 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.

Some of the writings of the Minor Prophets help to clarify and Paul put the whole thing together in his writings.

Isaiah 1:2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Lord hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

God is talking about Israel having rebelled against Him, but in truth, it started way back before Abraham with Adam, through Moses and the children of Israel with Aaron and the golden calf, forward through Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, to the time of Christ, and actually right on to His return! Humans have never learned to respect and honour God, so He blinded them so they would be less culpable.

Isaiah 1:3 The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider. 4 Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. 5 Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

Sick and don't know it, humans blunder on for millennia.

