

# **Isaiah: Behold Your God!**

**Judah's Unfaithfulness and God's Purifying Wrath  
Lesson 1  
Isaiah 1-4**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School  
September 9, 2018*

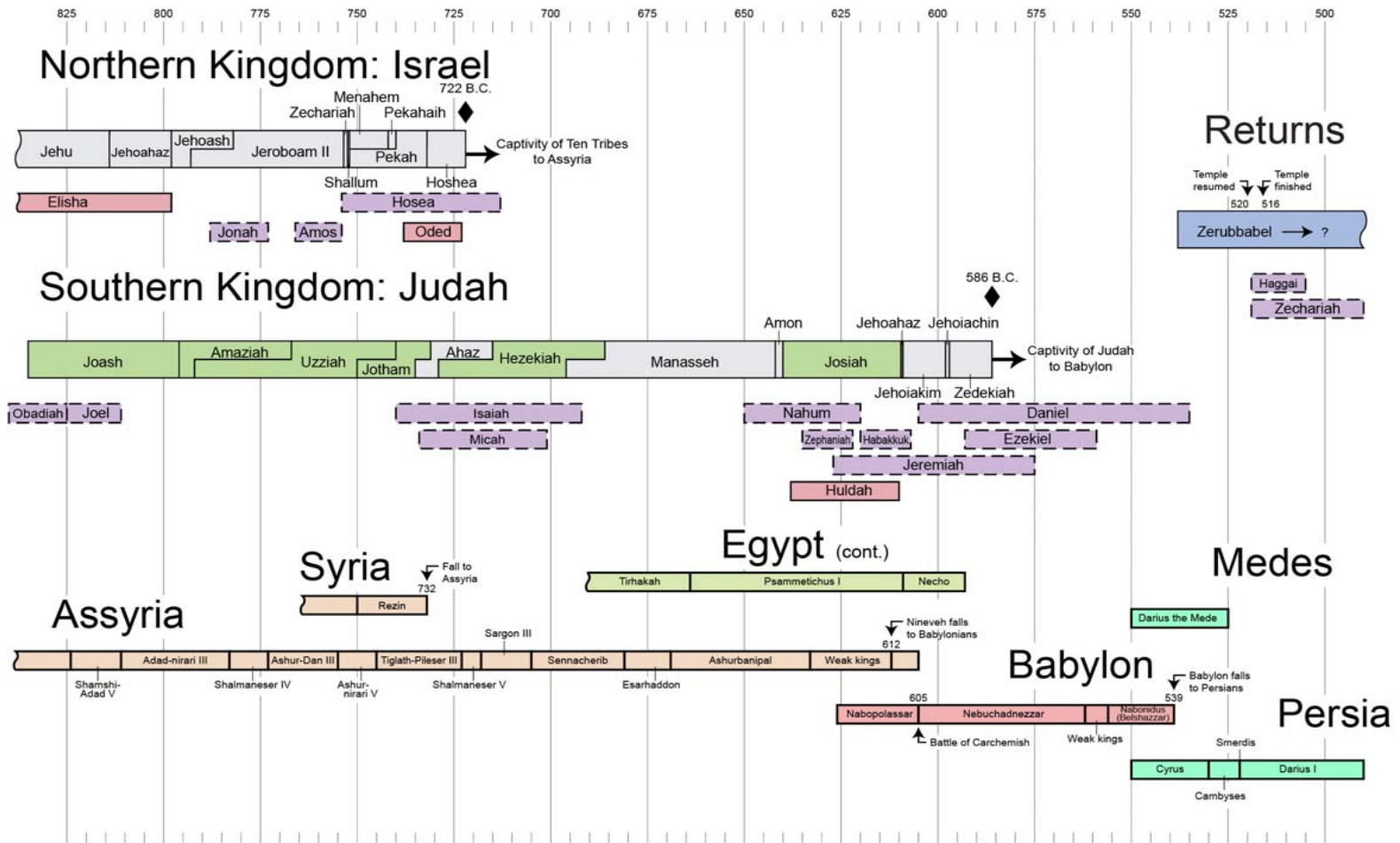
# Isaiah: Behold Your God!

- ▶ Commentary: Studies in Isaiah, Allan A. MacRae – <https://tbcpx.org>
- ▶ The most comprehensive presentation of the plan of God
- ▶ A systematic theology based upon history with a Gospel objective
- ▶ Prior written revelation: Pentateuch, Joel, Amos, Hosea, Wisdom Literature
- ▶ Isaiah teaches: character of God; character of fallen man; work of salvation; eschatology – O.T. version of Romans

# Isaiah: Behold Your God!

- ▶ Study Questions + Lesson Notes
- ▶ Outline (p.8) – Current part of the outline included with the Lesson Notes
- ▶ Outline – 2 books
  - Book of Condemnation (1-39)
  - Book of Comfort (40-66)

# Time Line of Isaiah



# Isaiah: Behold Your God!

- ▶ 2 rebellious nations from the House of Jacob: Israel and Judah
- ▶ The approaching invasion by Assyria – “the rod of My anger” (10:5)
- ▶ Israel’s defense: Alliance with Syria (Aram) – destroy Davidic monarchy
- ▶ Judah’s defense: Alliance with Assyria
- ▶ Isaiah’s message is that neither will work – trust the LORD
- ▶ Book 1 ends with Israel & Syria and Judah defeated: Jerusalem escapes
- ▶ Book 2 seems to occur with Judah in captivity in Babylon

# Isaiah: Behold Your God!

- ▶ Book 1: The Book of Condemnation
  - A. The case against the sons of Israel (1-5)
  - B. Isaiah is sent by the LORD (6)
  - C. The coming Assyrian invasion (7-12)
  - D. The oracles against the nations (13-27)
  - E. The message to Judah (28-35)
  - F. History: Assyrian invasion and future Babylonian captivity (36-39)

# Isaiah: Behold Your God!

- ▶ Book 2: The Book of Comfort
  - A. Theology Proper (40-48) – the revelation of our Sovereign God
  - B. Soteriology (49-59) – the revelation of our Saving God
  - C. Eschatology (60-66) – the revelation of our Eternal Kingdom
- ▶ Two Themes:
  - Behold Your God!
  - The Just Shall Live by Faith

# Lesson 1 – Isaiah 1-4

- ▶ The LORD presents His case against Judah and Jerusalem (1)
  - Introduction (1:1)
  - The indictment of the nation (1:2-9)
  - The remedy (1:10-20)
  - The plan (1:21-31)
- ▶ The future of Judah and Jerusalem (2-4)
  - Judah and Jerusalem in the last days (2:1-4)
  - The pride of man (2:5-11)
  - The day of reckoning (2:12-4:1)
  - Judah and Jerusalem in the last days (4:2-6)



# The LORD'S Case Against the "Sons" of Israel (1)

- ▶ The Promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob . . . and David
- ▶ The sinful nation (1:1-9)
  - The introduction – A vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem
  - A universal message – “Listen, O heavens, and hear, O earth.”
  - Their sin (1:3-4) – No knowledge or understanding; corrupt; abandoned and despised the Holy One of Israel
  - Their condition as a nation (1:5-6)
  - The condition of their land (1:7-9)
  - Like Sodom and Gomorrah
  - A small note of hope – “a few survivors (remnant)”

## The LORD Tells the Remedy (1:10-20)

- ▶ Give ear to the instruction of our God (1:10)
- ▶ No hope in the Law of Moses
- ▶ What is the instruction of our God?
- ▶ See Exodus 34:6-7 – forgiveness . . . Moses believed (34:9)
- ▶ “Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean . . .” (1:16-17)
- ▶ “Come now and let us reason together” (1:18-20)
- ▶ Trust in the word the LORD has spoken

# God's Purifying Wrath (1:21-31)

- ▶ The current state of Israel – a harlot
- ▶ The avenging wrath of God
- ▶ The purifying wrath of God
- ▶ Zion will be redeemed with justice
- ▶ Those who forsake the LORD will come to an end
- ▶ What can Judah do to make this happen?
- ▶ Trust the LORD only

# The Future of Judah and Jerusalem (2-4)

- ▶ Judah and Jerusalem in the Last Days (2:1-4)
  - The House of the LORD – the chief of the mountains
  - The Word of the LORD from Jerusalem
  - A kingdom of peace
- ▶ The Pride of Man (2:5-11)
  - The call to walk in the light of the LORD (2:5) – Psalm 119:11
  - The LORD has abandoned His people, the house of Jacob (2:6-11)
  - The wisdom of man = the way of death (Proverbs 14:12)
  - The pride of man will be abased (2:11) – Habakkuk 2:4
  - Grace v. “my way”
  - The LORD alone will be exalted in that day (2:11)

# A Day of Reckoning Is Coming (2:12-4:1)

- ▶ Against the pride of man (2:12-17)
- ▶ The terror of the LORD and the splendor of His majesty (2:18-21)
- ▶ The message: Stop regarding man – breath of life in his nostrils (2:22)
- ▶ Famine (3:1)
- ▶ Civil discord (3:2-7)
- ▶ Speech and actions are against the LORD (3:8)
- ▶ Evil on display like Sodom (3:9)
- ▶ Discriminating fury of the LORD (3:10-12)
- ▶ Elders and princes called out (3:13-15; 25-26)
- ▶ Daughters of Zion are called out for their pride (3:16-4:1)

## The Future Revisited (4:2-6)

- ▶ Judah and Jerusalem in the Last Days (4:2-6)
  - The Branch of the LORD will be beautiful – the survivors of Israel
  - Holiness
  - Forgiveness
  - The presence of the LORD
  - A shelter from the storm and rain – creation subdued
- ▶ This is not “my way” but the way of the LORD

# Judah's Unfaithfulness and God's Purifying Wrath

- ▶ The Holy One of Israel – inaccessible
- ▶ The pride of man – unbelief
- ▶ The amazing grace of God
- ▶ The call to know God and trust Him