ISAIAH: The Old Testament Evangelist

Isaiah's name, Jehovah's salvation, suits the immense scope of the man and his message only if we remember that God's salvation includes everything He has for us in Christ, His Perfect Servant. Salvation is clearly one of the biggest words in the Bible.

DIVISION ONE (chs. 1-39)

PROPHETIC (chs. 1-35)

JUDAH, ISRAEL, AND THE NATIONS

"...chiefly ministry to the conscience of Israel and Judah, suffering under God's hand in government, with Messiah's coming as the goal of blessing before them...an orderly, connected series of messages or burdens, evidently uttered by Isaiah before the illness of Hezekiah." -H.A. Ironside

THE ASSYRIAN PERIOD

- 1. Prophecies re Judah & Israel (chs. 1-12)
 - chs. I-5: Warning: promises of judgment
 - ch. 6: Scattering: the voice from the temple
 - ▲ chs. 7-12: Events & prophecies: historic (Ahaz)
- 2. Divine judgments & deliverances (chs. 13-35)
 - chs. 13-27: Burdens alternate with Israel's blessings
 - A. The book of burdens for the nations & Judah (chs. 13-23)
 - a) Babylon (chs. 13-14:27)
- f) Babylon (ch. 21:1-10)
- b) Philistia (chs. 14:28-32) c) Moab (chs. 15-16)
- g) Edom (ch. 21:11-12) h) Arabia (ch. 21:13-17)
- d) Damascus-Syria (ch. 17) i) Jerusalem-Judah (ch. 22)
- e) Egypt (chs. 18-20)

IIPLOOK

- j) Tyre—Lebanon (ch. 23)
- B. Universal judgment (ch. 24)
- C. The books of songs and woes (chs. 25-27 & chs. 28-35)
 - a) Song of the oppressed delivered (ch. 25:1-8)
 - b) Song of the enemy humbled (ch. 25:9-12)
 - c) Song of the land of Judah (ch. 26)
 - d) Song of the restored vineyard (ch. 27)
- chs. 28-35: Woes alternate with Jehovah's glories
 - a) Woe to the crown of pride (ch. 28)
 - b) Woe to Ariel-Jerusalem, the Lion (ch. 29:1-14)
 - c) Woe to the deceivers (ch. 29:15-24)
 - d) Woe to the rebellious children (ch. 30)
 - e) Woe to those who go down to Egypt (ch. 31)
 - f) Woe to the spoiler (ch. 32)
- D. Future of the nations & Israel contrasted (chs. 34-35)

HISTORIC (chs. 36-39)

THE REIGN OF GOOD KING HEZEKIAH

- "...historical, though of a prophetical, and typical character, showing how, for Judah, all blessing is bound up with a Son of David who goes down to death but is raised up by omnipotent power. lt...is almost identical with 2 Kings 18:13 to 20:19 and also, as to the main points, with 2 Chronicles 32." -H.A. Ironside
 - ▲ chs. 36–39: Events & prophecies: historic (Hezekiah)

AN ASSYRIAN BACKWARD LOOK

- I. Recollection: Assyrian invasion (chs. 36-37)
 - a) Hezekiah's distress (ch. 36)
 - b) Hezekiah's deliverance (ch. 37)

A BABYLONIAN FORWARD LOOK

- 2. Anticipation: the Babylonians (chs. 38-39)
 - a) Hezekiah's sickness (ch. 38)
 - b) Hezekiah's sin (ch. 39)
- N.B.: The points preceded by colored shapes are largely from an outline by E. W. Bullinger, showing the symmetry of the book of Isaiah.* So for example, the first and last sections, marked with a
- , answer to each other; the second and seventh sections, with a
- , mirror one another, etc.
- * This partly answers the charge that the book of Isaiah is a compilation penned by various authors. The more obvious proof is the acknowledgement by the New Testament writers and by our Lord Himself, quoting from every section of the book and always ascribing the verses to Isaiah.

DIVISION TWO (chs. 40-66)

MESSIANIC (chs. 40-66)

THE DELIVERANCE OF THE REMNANT

"...concludes the prophecy...lt sets forth the utter failure of the first man and the bringing in of the Second, the Lord from heaven. Israel, as the servant of God is shown to be unfaithful in every particular and is set aside that the True Servant, the Elect of Jehovah, may be manifested." -H.A. Ironside

THE BABYLONIAN PERIOD

- ch. 40:1-11: Gathering: the voice from the wilderness
- chs. 40:12-66: Hope: promises of restoration
- I. Israel's God & heathen gods (chs. 40:12-48)

The first song of the Servant (ch. 42:1-9)

2. Sufferings & glories of the Servant (chs. 49-57)

The second song of the Servant (ch. 49:1-13)

The third song of the Servant (ch. 50:4-11)

The fourth song of the Servant (ch. 52:13-53:12)

3. The godly & ungodly and their ends (chs. 58-66)

The Servant's reply (ch. 61:1-3)

"Isaiah is very bold": Isaiah in the New Testament

Wilmington's Guide to the Bible has a list of quotations from Isaiah in the New Testament. Verses from Isaiah chapters 1, 2, 5-14 inclusive, 19, 21-30 inclusive, 32-35 inclusive, 37, 38, & 40-66 inclusive are referenced in the New Testament. The only books without quotes from Isaiah are: I & 2 Timothy, Philemon, and 2 & 3 John. There are 416 separate references from Isaiah included in these 22 New Testament books. Obviously, Isaiah "is very bold," as Paul states, and many of the clearest and most convincing messianic prophecies are found in this major prophet's writings.

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