

WEEK 26 — ISRAEL FALLS

Date: about 745-705 BC (Isaiah 13:1 to 14:23 dates to sometime in the period 745-686 BC)

The Story: God continues to plead with Israel, with increasing urgency, to repent before it is too late. Two prophets at this time—Hosea in Israel and Isaiah in Judah—convey his messages. Neither nation listens. As a result, God delivers wicked Israel over to the Assyrian empire; it is overrun and its people are exiled. Meanwhile, in Judah, Isaiah speaks both warnings and hope to King Ahaz and the people. But Ahaz allies himself with Assyria for Judah's protection—and in doing so he rejects the Lord. Hope for Judah arises, though, in the next king, Hezekiah, who quickly works to turn God's remaining people back to God.

* Kids' readings may not align with the daily full readings. Parents, see the content ratings on the back page.

JUNE 25 HOSEA 11:12 to 14:9 • ISAIAH 6

Today's reading finishes the prophecies of Hosea with one final warning for Israel to turn back to God, who promises healing if his people will repent (Hosea 14). Then we return to Isaiah, where the prophet experiences a vision in which God sends him to speak to his people, though his people will refuse to listen.

Date: sometime before 722 BC (Hosea) • about 740 BC (Isaiah)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Hosea 11:12 to 14:9 • Isaiah 6

Kids' Reading*: Hosea 11:12 to 12:14 • Hosea 14

JUNE 26 2 KINGS 16 • 2 CHRONICLES 28 • ISAIAH 7

Today's reading weaves together stories of Judah's King Ahaz. Threatened by aggression from the combined forces of Aram and Israel to the north, Ahaz looks not to God for help but to Assyria, a rising superpower north of Aram. As Ahaz frets over how to respond to the Aramean-Israelite threat, Isaiah promises God's deliverance: God will use Assyria to deliver Judah (7:17). But Assyria will afflict Judah as well (7:20).

Date: about 735-732 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: 2 Kings 16 • 2 Chronicles 28:1-15 • Isaiah 7

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 6 • 2 Kings 16:7-20

JUNE 27 ISAIAH 8-10

Today's reading oscillates between prophecies of deliverance and of doom. Isaiah foretells that Aram (Damascus) and Israel (Samaria) will be conquered by Assyria within a few years (8:4). Assyria will also bring harm to Judah (8:8). Yet in future days, God will send a king to "reign on David's throne," who will bring peace to God's people (9:6-7); this prophecy will be fulfilled in a very limited way through Hezekiah, but in an ultimate sense through Jesus. As for Assyria, God will use that nation to discipline his people; but Assyria will abuse its authority from God, and God will punish Assyria, too (10:5-12).

Date: about 735 to sometime after 732 BC (Isaiah 8:1 to 10:4) • probably sometime between 720 and 701 BC (Isaiah 10:5-34)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Isaiah 8:1 to 9:7 • Isaiah 10:5-25

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 7:1-17 • Isaiah 9:1-7

JUNE 28 ISAIAH 11-14

Today's reading expresses more of God's plan to bring a faithful, powerful, just ruler to his people one day—the "shoot...from the stump of Jesse" (11:1-5). Future kings Hezekiah and Josiah become godly rulers of Judah, but prophecies like this hint at someone greater, the Messiah for whom later Jews waited. Chapters 13-14 introduce prophecies concerning Babylon, which is growing in influence but is not yet a superpower like Assyria—but it will be. Notice that 14:12-15, which some have said describes the fall of Satan, is actually addressed to the king of Babylon (14:4). A prophecy against the Philistines closes this reading.

Date: probably sometime between 745 and 686 BC

DAILY BIBLE READINGS — Summit View Church of Christ

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Isaiah 11-12 • Isaiah 14

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 11-12

JUNE 29 ISAIAH 17 • ISAIAH 28

Today's reading offers two prophecies. The first is spoken against Damascus (17:1), capital of Aram (north of Israel, modern-day Syria)—and against Israel (17:3), which was allied with Aram against Judah at this time. Both lands will fall because they oppose God by plundering Judah (17:14). Another prophecy of destruction because of God's anger comes in chapter 28, directed against both Israel and Judah for their ungodliness, even among the priests and prophets (28:7).

Date: probably between 734 and 732 BC (Isaiah 17) • sometime before 722 BC (Isaiah 28)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Isaiah 17 • Isaiah 28

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 17 • Isaiah 29:13-24

JUNE 30 2 KINGS 17 • ISAIAH 29

Today's reading relates the sad story of Israel's final fall to the Assyrian Empire in 722 BC. Notice why God brought about Israel's demise (1 Kings 17:7-23). Notice also how many times the Lord had tried to stop his people from doing evil, before it was too late. When Israel falls, Judah remains, but as Isaiah 29 reminds us, Judah is guilty of tremendous sin, too. Isaiah foretold that it, like Israel, would face enemy assaults—but God would deliver Jerusalem.

Date: 732-722 BC (2 Kings) • probably between 722 and 701 BC (Isaiah)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: 2 Kings 17 • Isaiah 29

Kids' Reading*: 2 Kings 18:1-8 • 2 Chronicles 29:1-11 • 2 Chronicles 29:15-19 • 2 Chronicles 29:25-36

JULY 1 2 KINGS 18:1-8 • 2 CHRONICLES 29-30

Today's reading brings us back to Judah, where Hezekiah comes to the throne. Refreshingly, he trusts in God; he undertakes major religious reforms, reopening God's temple (which his father Ahaz had closed, 2 Chronicles 28:24) and reinstating observation of the Passover.

Date: about 715 BC (2 Kings 18:1-4, 2 Chronicles 29-30) • about 705 BC (2 Kings 18:5-8)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: 2 Chronicles 29-30

Kids' Reading*: 2 Chronicles 30

Parents' Guide

PG preview for young children

2K 16:5-9 (V)

2K 17:7-23 (T), 25-26 (V)

2Chr 28:5-8 (V), 9-15 (T), 15 (N), 17-18 (V)

2Chr 29:8 (T), 9 (V), 22-24 (T)

Is 6:11-13 (V)

Is 7:1 (V), 6 (V), 16 (V)

Is 8:3 (S), 9 (V), 14-15 (T), 19-22 (T)

Is 9:5 (T), 12-19 (T)

Is 10:1-4 (T, V), 16-18 (T), 22-23 (T), 24-26 (V)

Is 13:3-14 (T), 15 (V), 19-22 (T)

Is 14:6 (V), 9-11 (T), 15 (T), 18-20 (T, V), 22-27 (T), 29-31 (T)

Is 17:1-2 (T), 14 (T)

Is 28:1-4 (T), 7-8 (T), 9 (S), 13-15 (T), 18-22 (T)

Is 29:1-10 (T), 7 (V)

Hos 12:1 (V), 14 (V)

Hos 13:1 (T), 13 (T)

*C = Circumcision
N = Nudity
S = Sexuality
T = Dark/Sensitive Themes
V = Violence*

PG-13 preview for under age 13

Is 7:20 (S)

Is 10:5-6 (V)

Hos 13:7-8 (V)

R shocking, graphic, or disturbing

2K 16:3 (V)

2K 17:17 (V), 31 (V)

2Chr 28:3 (V)

Is 9:20-21 (V)

Is 13:16-18 (S, V)

Is 14:21 (V)

Hos 13:2 (V), 16 (V)