

WEEK 29 — ISAIAH'S PROPHECIES OF CONSOLATION, PART 2

Date: probably after 701 BC to perhaps 626 BC

The Story: God continues to speak a message of hope to his people through Isaiah's Book of Consolation, urging them to turn away from their sin and come to him, for he will forgive, restore, and heal them. Not only that—God also has glorious surprises awaiting his people: resurrection from the dead and life in new heavens and a new earth! After a few more encouraging chapters from Isaiah, we reenter the historical timeline of Israel, focusing on two wicked kings of Judah. Meanwhile, God speaks judgment on Nineveh (in Assyria) through the prophet Nahum. Israelite or foreign, God judges the wickedness of all people.

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

JULY 17 ISAIAH 52-55

Today's reading brings us to the middle of Isaiah's Book of Consolation and to encouraging prophecies of Zion's redemption. Most significant in this section is the prophecy of the suffering servant in 52:13 to 53:12. Watch for hints of Jesus in this text: his sacrifice that atones for our sins, the healing he brings us, and the sequence of his death, resurrection, and reward from God.

Date: probably after 701 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Isaiah 52-53 • Isaiah 55

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 52:7 to 53:12

JULY 18 ISAIAH 56-58

Today's reading, continuing Isaiah's Book of Consolation, deals frankly with Israel's sin. After a brief announcement of salvation for foreigners (56:3-8), the Lord rebukes "Israel's watchmen" for failing to watch over his people (56:9 to 57:13). But God offers support to those who turn back to him (57:14-21). Yet God will not accept false repentance or vain devotion to him; 58:6-10 illustrates the conduct God expects.

Date: probably after 701 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Isaiah 56:9 to 58:14

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 54

JULY 19 ISAIAH 59-61

Today's reading, our eighth from Isaiah's Book of Consolation, begins with the raw reality that God can save his people, "But your iniquities have separated you from your God" (59:1-2). This truth introduces a call to repentance, which then leads into more messages of hope for a renewed, glorious future for God's people. Don't miss 61:1-3, the source text for Jesus' claim that God anointed him for his ministry (Luke 4:16-21).

Date: probably after 701 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Isaiah 60-61

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 55 • Isaiah 57:14-21

JULY 20 ISAIAH 62-65

Today's reading begins to wind down our journey through Isaiah's Book of Consolation. Hope predominates from here to the end of the book. The Lord will take delight in his people (62:4); though his children rebelled against him, he will not be angry with them beyond measure (chapters 63-64). He will punish the wicked and care for his servants (65:8-15). He will—in a prophecy that seems to extend beyond the future of Israel to the fate of the cosmos—"create new heavens and a new earth," a realm of peace, long life, and joy (65:17-25).

Date: probably after 701 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Isaiah 63:7 to 65:25

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 61-62

DAILY BIBLE READINGS — Summit View Church of Christ

JULY 21 ISAIAH 66 • ISAIAH 23-24

Today's reading concludes Isaiah's Book of Consolation with a word of encouragement for the humble and contrite (66:2) and a promise that the Lord will come, both to bless the faithful and to judge the wicked (66:15-24). Having finished the Book of Consolation, we return to earlier chapters of Isaiah to read (today and tomorrow) what may be the last prophecies we have from him. Chapter 23 foretells God's judgment of Tyre; chapter 24 predicts his judgment of the whole earth, which will result in his praise.

Date: probably after 701 BC (Isaiah 66, Isaiah 24) • probably soon after 689 BC (Isaiah 23)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Isaiah 66 • Isaiah 24

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 63:7-19 • Isaiah 64

JULY 22 ISAIAH 25-27 • 2 KINGS 21

Today's reading closes our readings from the book of Isaiah. These chapters are encouraging messages of God's help for the weak and of restoration for his people. Notice the prophetic hints of the resurrection of the dead and the end of death itself in 25:7-8 and 26:19. Then our readings return briefly to the narrative history of Judah with 2 Kings 21, which tells of two wicked kings of Judah: Hezekiah's son Manasseh and his son Amon.

Date: probably after 701 BC (Isaiah 25-27) • about 696-640 BC (2 Kings 21)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Isaiah 25-26 • 2 Kings 21

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 65:17-25 • Isaiah 25:1-9

JULY 23 2 CHRONICLES 33 • NAHUM

Today's reading repeats yesterday's stories of Manasseh and Amon, but with a twist: notice the shocking new information about Manasseh. Then it takes us to the short book of the prophet Nahum. His message from God is a scathing judgment against Nineveh, a capital city of Assyria. In Jonah's time a century earlier, Nineveh repented of its violence and evil ways (Jonah 3:8), but apparently that repentance didn't last—and God has noticed! What sins has Nineveh committed? How will God respond to Nineveh's evil?

Date: about 696-640 BC (2 Chronicles 33) • probably between 652 and 626 BC (Nahum)

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: 2 Chronicles 33 • Nahum 1 • Nahum 3

Kids' Reading*: Isaiah 27 • 2 Chronicles 33:10-25

Parents' Guide

PG preview for young children

2K 21:13-16 (V), 23-24 (V)

2Chr 33:24-25 (V)

Is 23:12 (S, T), 13 (V), 16-17 (S)

Is 24:1-13 (T), 12 (V), 16-23 (T)

Is 25:2 (V)

Is 26:5-6 (V), 11 (V), 17-18 (T), 21 (T, V)

Is 27:1 (V), 4 (V), 7-8 (V)

Is 52:1 (C), 14 (T)

Is 53:3-12 (T, V)

Is 56:3-4 (S), 9-12 (T)

Is 57:1-2 (T)

Is 58:4 (V), 7 (N)

Is 59:3-8 (T, V), 10 (T), 13-15 (T), 18 (T)

Is 60:16 (S)

Is 63:1-6 (T, V)

Is 64:6 (T), 10-11 (T)

Is 65:11 (T), 12 (V), 15 (T, V)

Is 66:5-6 (T), 11 (S), 15-17 (T)

Nah chapter 1 (T)

Nah chapter 2 (T, V)

Nah 2:7 (S)

Nah 3:4-5 (N, S)

PG-13 preview for under age 13

2Chr 33:11 (V)

Is 25:10-12 (T, V)

Is 66:3 (V), 24 (T, V)

Nah chapter 3 (T, V)

R shocking, graphic, or disturbing

2K 21:6 (T, V)

2Chr 33:6 (T, V)

Is 57:3-10 (N, S, T, V)

Nah 3:10 (V)

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