

## Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Behold, My servant will prosper, He will be high and lifted up and greatly exalted. 14 Just as many were astonished at you, My people, So His appearance was marred more than any man and His form more than the sons of men. 15 Thus He will sprinkle many nations, Kings will shut their mouths on account of Him; For what had not been told them they will see, And what they had not heard they will understand.

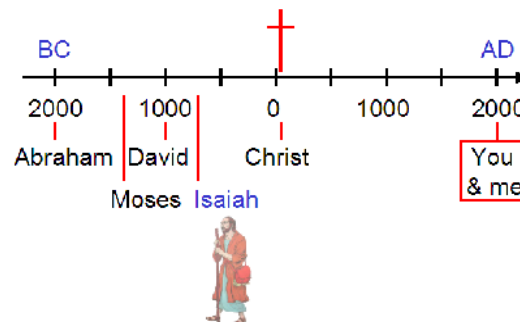
53:1 Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? 2 For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of parched ground; He has no stately form or majesty That we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. 3 He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. 4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. 6 All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. 7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth. 8 By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke was due? 9 His grave was assigned with wicked men, yet He was with a rich man in His death, because He had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in His mouth. 10 But the LORD was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; if He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand. 11 As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; by His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, and He will divide the booty with the strong; because He poured out Himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.


### Today we begin our study of Isaiah

- The biggest of the Old Testament prophetic books (66 chapters big!)
- He lived about 700 years before the birth of Christ, yet foretold details about Christ's first coming & His second coming – events yet to take place, but as certain as the fulfillment of the events in Christ's first coming



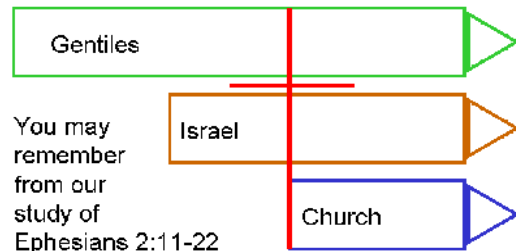
### Isaiah's timeline



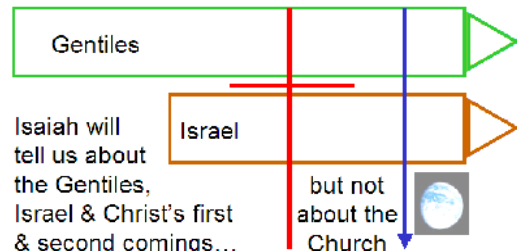
### Study through Isaiah? Why are we going to do this?

- Isaiah is a part of Scripture, & Paul wrote that "All Scripture is inspired and profitable..." (2 Timothy 3:16,17; see also 2 Timothy 3:15: Timothy was raised on the Old Testament)
- So Paul effectively wrote that our studying through Isaiah – a God-inspired book – will be spiritually profitable for us who have been placed into "the Church", upon faith in Christ

### God made believing Gentiles & Jews into one new people: the Church



### God made believing Gentiles & Jews into one new people: the Church

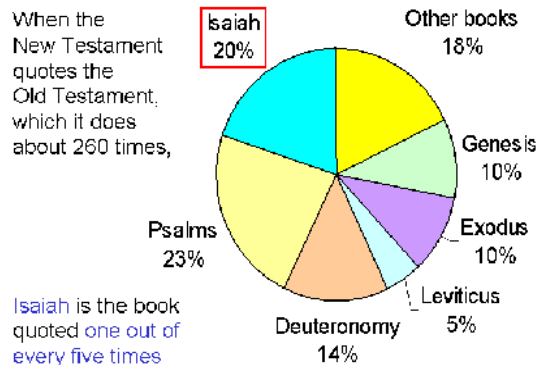


### Study through Isaiah? Why are we going to do this?

- But wasn't Isaiah an Old Testament prophet who only addressed Jews?
- Since we're in the Church, & not under the Law, isn't Isaiah just for the Jews?
- Isaiah was a Jew, ministering to the Jews & he did not directly reveal that there would one day be this unique body of believers called "the Church"

The authors of the New Testament often quoted Isaiah for the benefit of the Church

When the New Testament quotes the Old Testament, which it does about 260 times,



### When Revelation quotes Isaiah

- When studying the book of Revelation, we said that about 70% of its contents were right out of the Old Testament
- Isaiah is the source of many of the key words & concepts in Revelation
- Isaiah 49:2 describes a sharp sword coming out of the mouth
- Revelation uses that imagery in 1:16; 2:12,16; 19:15,21, speaking of a sword from the mouth of Jesus Christ

### The Gospel of John: seven statements by Christ, "I AM"

"I AM the bread of life"	John 6:35
"I AM the light of the world"	John 8:12
"I AM the gate"	John 10:7,9
"I AM the good shepherd"	John 10:11,14
"I AM the resurrection and the life"	John 11:25
"I AM the way, the truth, and the life"	John 14:6
"I AM the true vine"	John 15:1,5

I AM = "egō eimi", in these passages & in the Greek Old Testament in Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 41:4; 46:9 et al

### When Revelation quotes Isaiah

- Revelation speaks repeatedly of "I AM the Beginning and the End" and "I AM the First and the Last" (Revelation 1:17,18; 2:8; 21:6; 22:13; & "the Alpha & the Omega", 1:8; 21:6; 22:13)
- The claim of God to be "the Beginning and the End" and "the First and the Last" comes from Isaiah 41:4; 44:6; 46:9,10; 48:12
- "I AM" in several of these verses is *egō eimi*, a claim to deity

### Relax... It's going to be really, really, really... good!

- After three weeks of introduction, we will be studying through Isaiah at a rate of about one chapter a week
- Our approach will be to start off by summarizing each chapter
- Then we will focus in on a more detailed study of a smaller selected passage within each chapter
- We will likely have occasional exceptions to that general pattern

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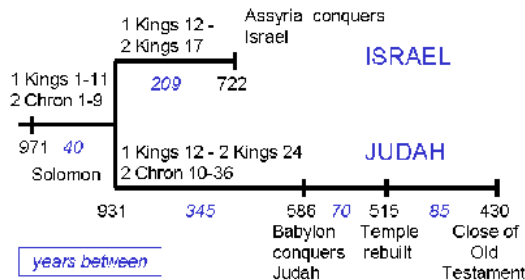
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## The Divided Kingdom



## Summary of the divided Kingdom

	<u>Israel</u> (aka Ephraim)	<u>Judah</u>
Kingdom	Northern	Southern
Dates of existence	931-722 BC	931-586 BC
Duration in Years	209	345
Tribes	The 10 others	Judah & Benjamin
Capital	Bethel / Samaria	Jerusalem
No. of kings	19	20
Dynasties	9 dynasties	1 dynasty: David
Violent deaths	About half	4
Character of kings	None godly	8 godly / 12 ungodly

## One more good reason to study Isaiah

- Isaiah had a wife & two children
- But His people (Israel) had already divided into two nations, & the culture in each nation was pretty much careening downhill... fast
- How does one live & where do you turn when the culture around you is headed downhill both morally & spiritually?
- What answers do you give to others at a time like that?

## One more good reason to study Isaiah

- What do you do when people from the Middle East are attacking your nation right within your own borders?
- And making threats of devastation?
- Who do you turn to at a time like that?

## The gospel in 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

So which "Scriptures" is Paul referring to? Does he mean the New Testament, the Old Testament, or both?

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There were few New Testament books when Paul wrote 1 Corinthians, & considering that Christ Himself spoke of what must take place with Him according to "the Scriptures" (Matthew 26:54,46; Luke 24:27-49), by "Scriptures" Paul meant the Old Testament

## The gospel in 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins+ according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried++, and that He was raised\* on the third day according to the Scriptures...

- + Isaiah 53:4-6,8,10-12
- ++ Isaiah 53:9
- \* Isaiah 53:10-12

The three things to be believed about Christ, in order for a person to be saved, are prophesied in Isaiah 53

## One more really big little thing...

- Built within the understanding of the word "Christ" is that He is deity = the Son of God
- "...but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name." John 20:31



## There was a certain Ethiopian

- In Acts 8:26-39, Philip the deacon was brought to convey the gospel to an Ethiopian court official, the treasurer for Candace, the Queen of Ethiopia
- Philip started explaining the gospel to the man, beginning with Isaiah 53
- That day the man believed in Jesus Christ, & was baptized