

Survey of Isaiah

by
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Survey of Isaiah

**A study of the book of Isaiah for
Small Group or Personal Bible Study**

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Survey of Isaiah

Small Group or Personal Study Course

Introduction

This is a small group Bible study course to help you grow in your understanding of the book of Isaiah. This study will be most effective as you get together with a small group to share the answers that each of you has written in your personal study. This can also be used as a personal study course to help you grow in your understanding of the book of Isaiah. This course is designed to help you grow in three ways. Throughout the course you will read a paragraph to help you grow in your knowledge of the verses that you will be reading. After each paragraph you will usually have three questions. These three questions will focus on three things: Knowledge, Understanding and Application.

The first question will ask you to find the answer to some question in the verses that you are reading. This question is to help you pick out a key fact in those verses to help you grow in your knowledge of those verses. The answer to this question will usually be found in the verses as you read them.

The second question will ask you a question that will help you to think through the verses to understand the meaning of the group of verses being discussed. As you read this question, pray that the Lord will give you understanding of the passage as well as knowledge of the facts.

The third question will ask you a question that will help you to apply what you have learned from those verses both to your own life and to your service for Christ. It is as we understand and apply the Scripture to our lives that the Lord really begins to change and transform our lives.

At the end of each lesson there will be an opportunity to write down something that you have learned for your own life through the study of those verses. Our prayer is that as you work through these lessons that three things will happen in your life:

1. First, you will grow in your knowledge of the Bible.
2. Second, you will grow in your understanding of the verses that you have studied.
3. Third, you will learn how to apply the Word of God to your life.

The basic material in each of these lessons was originally written in one of six Bible Survey texts written between 1969 and 1974 that covered the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation. We are making this material available in this new form to help you grow in your knowledge, understanding and application of the Bible to your life. The Lord willing, we will continue to make other books available as we have time to prepare them in this new form.

May the Lord bless you as you learn His Word.

Survey of Isaiah

	Page
Introduction	ii
1. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 1:1-2:22	1
2. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 3:1-5:30	6
3. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 6:1-7:25	11
4. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 8:1-9:21	16
5. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 10:1-12:6	20
6. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 13:1-15:9	24
7. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 16:1-19:25	29
8. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 20:1-23:18	34
9. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 24:1-25:12	39
10. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 26:1-28:29	43
11. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 29:1-30:33	48
12. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 31:1-33:24	53
13. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 34:1-36:22	57
14. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 37:1-39:8	61
15. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 40:1-41:29	66
16. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 42:1-43:38	71
17. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 44:1-45:25	76
18. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 46:1-48:22	80
19. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 49:1-51:23	84
20. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 52:1-53:12	88
21. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 54:1-56:12	92
22. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 57:1-59:21	96
23. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 60:1-61:11	105
24. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 62:1-64:12	106
25. Survey of Isaiah - Isaiah 65:1-66:24	110

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 1
Isaiah 1:1-2:22

Today we are beginning a study of the books that are known as the Major Prophets. There were four different prophets that wrote these five books. These prophets were Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel. Each one of these men wrote the book that has his name. In addition, Jeremiah also wrote the book of Lamentations. Today we will be starting a study of the book of Isaiah. In the first chapters we see that the people were religious but did not have their trust in the Lord. As a result, we will learn how God feels about those people that are religious but do not really worship and serve the Lord in their hearts.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God said that it would be necessary to judge Judah.
- Explain how God feels about those who are only religious.
- Explain what we learn about the future kingdom of Christ.
- Explain why we cannot be proud before the Lord.

As we begin our study of the book of Isaiah, we see that Isaiah was speaking about the nation of Judah and the city of Jerusalem. As you may remember, the country of Israel divided into two countries when the son of Solomon became the king. The northern ten tribes rejected the leadership of the son of Solomon and continued to be named Israel. The southern kingdom took the name of Judah and Jerusalem remained its capital city. The nation of Israel had immediately turned away from the Lord. As we begin the book of Isaiah we see that the southern kingdom of Judah had now also rebelled and turned away from the Lord. Neither kingdom was following the ways of the Lord any longer. Both Israel and Judah had turned away from the God.

1. Read Isaiah 1:1-9 and write what the ox and the donkey knew that Israel and Judah did not know any longer.
2. Explain why it is important to help people of every generation come to an understanding of the need to place their trust in the Lord.
3. Explain why you think that both Israel and Judah had turned away from the Lord and had turned to idols.

Here we see that even the animals know who takes care of them. However, the people that God had chosen to receive His promises were not following the Lord. Instead both Israel and Judah had become very sinful and had turned their backs on the Lord. They had become filled with rebellion against God. As a result, God said that they had become like a person that had many cuts, bruises and sores. God said that these sores and cuts had become filled with disease and were beginning to smell and rot. Here we see the way that the Lord looks at sin. He cannot look at sin in the life of any person with approval. Instead we see that in the sight of God, sin stinks. By the time Isaiah wrote this book God had already judged the nation of Israel.

4. Read Isaiah 1:1-9 and write what God said that Judah and the cities of Judah had become like because the people had rebelled against the Lord.
5. Explain why many people become rebellious toward God and turn to sin and then become very evil in their lives.
6. Explain why you think that God said that the people of Judah would become like a person that had many cuts, bruises and sores.

Here we see the judgment of God upon sin. Because Judah had turned away from the Lord, He had allowed their enemies to come into the land and destroy the cities and steal the crops. The

people of Judah had been left with very little. However, even with this terrible picture of a sinning nation, we see that God had not destroyed Judah completely because there was a small group of people in the nation that still worshiped the Lord. Today many countries of the world have become like Judah. They have turned away from the Lord and are living in sin. The only thing that has kept many of the nations from being completely destroyed is the fact that there is still a small group of people in each country that worship the Lord.

7. Read Isaiah 1:1-9 and write what Isaiah said that the land would have become like if the Lord had not kept this small group that was faithful to the Lord.

8. Explain why these verses tell us that it had become necessary for God to begin to judge Judah.

9. Explain why you think that God kept a small group of people in the land of Judah that continued to be faithful to Him.

Although the people of Judah had turned away from the Lord, the people were still very religious. They were still offering sacrifices and coming to the temple to show that they were religious. However, in their hearts they were far from the Lord. Today the same thing is happening in many places. People go to church. They call themselves Christians. They even try to do good works which they hope will earn their salvation. However, they have never invited Christ to forgive their sins and change their lives. As a result, they have a religion but they do not serve Christ. The result is that they are religious but they are far from God.

10. Read Isaiah 1:10-31 and write what God said about the sacrifices of the people of Judah.

11. Explain why people can be very religious and even go to church regularly and yet their hearts can be far from the Lord.

12. Explain why you think that religious people will often try to earn their salvation by doing good works instead of placing their trust in Christ.

God said that the sacrifices and the false worship of the people of Judah made Him sick. He hated their religious practices because they were not changed in their hearts. God told the people of Judah that He would not listen to their prayers because they were not following Him. Instead their hands were full of blood and sin. Then God asked the people of Judah to turn away from their sin and begin to serve Him again. He said that He was anxious to forgive their sins and make them as white as snow. Here we see that God still had a great love for the people of Judah even though most of the people were living in inner rebellion against Him.

13. Read Isaiah 1:10-31 and write what God promised the people of Judah if they would be willing and obedient to Him.

14. Explain why the Lord told the people that He was anxious to forgive their sins and make them white as snow.

15. Explain why you think that God still had a great love for the people of Judah even though most of the people were living in inner rebellion.

Here we see that God gave the people of Judah a choice. He also gives that same choice to all people today. God told the people of Judah that if they would obey God and serve Him that He would bless them. If they chose to refuse to obey God and continue to rebel against Him, God said that it would be necessary for Him to judge them. Then we go to read about one city that had been faithful to the Lord but then turned away from Him. It had been faithful to the Lord at one time but now it was filled with sin. Today we have many churches that are just like this city. At one time those churches were faithful to the Lord. They preached the Word of God. Now they have turned away from the Lord and no longer teach His Word. Instead they teach their own ideas.

16. Read Isaiah 1:10-31 and write what God said that He would do with His adversaries and His enemies.

17. Explain why God explained to the people of Judah the fact that they had choices and the choice that they made would bring either good or bad consequences.

18. Explain why you think that God often pointed out to people that they could continue to rebel against Him or they could choose to obey Him.

Here we see that God will judge all of the people that are only religious but do not follow the Lord. The Lord will judge His adversaries. God told the people of Judah that one day He will make things the way that they were when He ruled Israel and Judah. At that time Jerusalem will again become a faithful city that is called the city of righteousness. Those who have only been religious will be destroyed. Instead of those people trying to be beautiful in themselves, God will show what they are like in their hearts. They will become like trees whose leaves have faded and gardens that have had no water.

19. Read Isaiah 1:10-31 and write what God said would happen to Zion when the people turned to Him.

20. Explain what these verses teach about people that are only religious but are not serving the Lord in their hearts.

21. Explain why you think that God told the people that they would become like faded trees if they did not turn to Him.

God said that one day Jerusalem would become a faithful city again. As a result, we read several other things that will happen when Jerusalem becomes a faithful city again. We see that in the last days that the house of the Lord will be established in the top of the mountains. Here we see what will happen when Christ comes back from heaven to rule on the earth. Revelation 20 tells us that Christ will rule on the earth for one thousand years. At that time He will be the ruler over all of the countries of the world. All of the countries will be under His control.

22. Read Isaiah 2:1-5 and write what many people throughout the world will be saying in that day when Christ rules.

23. Explain why the Lord said that the house of the Lord will be established in the top of the mountains in the last days.

24. Explain why you think that God continued to remind the people that Jerusalem would one day become a faithful city again.

Here we see that a future day is coming when people from all over the earth will want to come to Jerusalem to worship Christ. They will want Him to teach them how to live so that they will be able to walk in His ways. Here we see that there will be some great changes that will happen when Christ rules on the earth. Many people will want to learn directly from Christ how they should live. They will want to walk in the ways that Christ teaches them. Christ will make the laws. He will speak from Jerusalem to the whole earth to tell the people how to live in ways that please Him.

25. Read Isaiah 2:1-5 and write what the people will do with their swords and their spears in that day.

26. Explain why many people will want to learn directly from Christ how to live when He returns to rule the earth.

27. Explain why you think that many people today also need to have someone teach them how to live for Christ and walk in His ways.

Here we see another great change that will happen when Christ rules on the earth. Instead of fighting against each other, people will take the things with which they fight and convert those things into equipment that they can use to care for their crops. Here we see that there will be a very great change in the hearts of the people. Today people in all parts of the earth are fighting against each other. They are trying to destroy one another. Here we see that people will be in their fields instead of fighting one another. This will happen because the people will be walking in the light that Christ gives instead of walking in their own ways.

28. Read Isaiah 2:1-5 and write in what the Lord asked the house of Jacob to walk.

29. Explain some the changes that will happen on the earth when Christ comes to rule the earth

with justice.

30. Explain why you think that the earth will be very different when the Lord rules on the earth.

We go on to read why Judah had turned away from the Lord. The people began to listen to fortune tellers and those who told the future by the stars (astrology) instead of listening to the Word of God. They became concerned about riches and satisfying themselves. They began worshipping the things that they had made. They became proud of the things that they did. Today we see that many people in various countries around the world are doing the same things. People today are looking for people that they think can tell them what will happen in the future. They are concerned about riches. They worship the things that they possess. They are filled with pride.

31. Read Isaiah 2:6-22 and write what will happen to the lofty (proud) looks of men.

32. Explain why people focus on the things that satisfy themselves when they are not walking with the Lord.

33. Explain why you think that people begin to turn to other things to find out about the future when they turn away from the Word of God.

Today we are getting very close to the day when Christ will rule the earth. Pride is becoming more and more common among people in every part of the world. Here we see that the Lord will judge the proud. After Christ has judged those that are in rebellion against Him, He will be the only person that people will praise. People will no longer praise themselves. The coming of the Lord to rule on the earth will be a day of judgment for all those on the earth that are proud. None of the proud will escape that judgment. It will not even matter if these men are kings or rulers. They will all experience the judgment of the Lord.

34. Read Isaiah 2:6-22 and write what Christ will do with the idols of on the earth when He comes to rule.

35. Explain why none of the people that are controlled by pride will escape judgment when Christ comes to rule the earth.

36. Explain why you think that pride and the dangers of pride are mentioned so many times in the Bible.

Here we see that when Christ comes to rule on the earth that He will completely destroy all of the idols and other objects that people worship. Christ alone will be worshiped. When Christ comes to judge the earth, people will try to hide in the caves and rocks in order to escape His judgment. These people will think that they can escape the judgment of the Lord. However, Christ will shake the earth and these people will be destroyed. There will be no place where the proud can hide in an effort to try and escape the judgment of the Lord.

37. Read Isaiah 2:6-22 and write to whom the people will throw their idols that they have made for themselves in the day when Christ comes to rule.

38. Explain what you learn about the judgment of the people on the earth that are controlled by pride.

39. Explain why you think that people will try and hide in the caves and the rocks to try and escape the judgment of the Lord.

When the Lord shakes the earth, all of the people that are controlled by pride will be destroyed. Their idols will be left for the moles and the bats. Here we see that evil people will no longer be able to worship the things that they have obtained by their own efforts. Their own efforts will come to nothing. When the Lord judges the pride of the people, the idols of those people will not be able to help them in that day. None will escape the judgment of the Lord. In addition, their idols that will be left on the earth will also be destroyed.

40. Read Isaiah 2:6-22 and write why evil people will hide in the rocks.

41. Explain what these verses teach about the uselessness of idols in the day that the Lord come back to rule.

42. Explain how you think that the people will feel when they see that the things that they have

worshiped can offer them no help.

Reread Isaiah 1:1-2:22 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 2
Isaiah 3:1-5:30

Today in our study we will learn more about the sinfulness of Judah. As we study the sins of Judah, we will see that people have not changed. The people that are alive today are committing the same sins for which Judah was judged. All of the sins that are mentioned in these chapters are very common today. Because of the sins of Judah, God said that six groups would receive woe (judgment). In the middle of these chapters on sin and judgment, we see a beautiful picture of the time when Christ will rule on the earth. Many times in the book of Isaiah we will see that the warnings about judgment are followed by promises of blessing when the people return to the Lord.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why it was necessary for Judah to be judged.
- Explain what we learn about the coming kingdom of Christ.
- Explain why Israel is called the vineyard of the Lord.
- Explain what you learn about the six groups that are promised judgment.

As we begin these chapters, we see that God gave the people of Judah a warning that He was going to take away the food of the people of Judah. This kind of judgment happened several times to the city of Jerusalem. God allowed the enemies of Judah and Jerusalem to surround the city and nearly starve the people to death. Finally the Lord brought an even greater judgment and the entire city was destroyed and the people were taken away as slaves to other countries. We also see that the Lord promised that He would take away the leaders of Jerusalem and allow children to rule over the people. Before the time came that Jerusalem was destroyed, most of the leaders and skillful workers were carried away to a foreign country.

1. Read Isaiah 3:1-15 and write how God said a child would behave himself in his relationship with the older people.
2. Explain why God allowed various enemies of Judah and Jerusalem to surround the city and nearly starve the people to death.
3. Explain why you think that the first people that the enemies took away from the city were most of the leaders and skillful workers.

Here we see that several things that happened in Judah during and after the time of Isaiah are happening around us today. Throughout history people have been oppressing each other and taking advantage of their neighbors. Children have become proud and have rebelled against their parents. Evil men have taken advantage of other men. Leaders have often been chosen because they are rich. God told the people of Judah that He was no longer going to protect Judah because of its sin. This should also be a warning to us today. God said that He would not be a healer and comforter. He said that He would not provide Judah with food and clothing because the day of judgment had come for the people in the land of Judah.

4. Read Isaiah 3:1-26 and write how the people were showing their sin.
5. Explain why children will often rebel against their parents when they become proud.
6. Explain why you think that people often choose people to lead them that have a large amount of riches.

We see that the people of Judah were living in open sin and rebellion. They did not even try to hide their sin. They did not care who knew that they were living in sin. God told these evil people that they would receive judgment for their evil actions. The Lord also said that the small group of people in the land of Judah that followed Him would be rewarded for doing the things

that were right. This is a reminder of the fact that as people make choices in life that they will reap the consequences of those choices. Those who make right choices will be blessed. Those who make sinful choices will be judged. We also see that the children that were ruling the people of Judah were evil and were controlled by evil women. As a result, God said that He must judge them.

7. Read Isaiah 3:1-26 and write who God said were haughty and proud.

8. Explain why people can become so evil that they do not even care that others know that they are living in sin.

9. Explain why you think that it is important to help people realize that if they make right choices they will be blessed and if they make evil choices they will be judged.

The rich women of Jerusalem (Zion) were filled with pride. These women were also in rebellion against the Lord. They were using all kinds of clothes, jewelry, perfume and other things to attract men and encourage those men to commit adultery with them. God warned that He would also judge these women as well as the men. He would take away their riches. Many of the men would be killed. Both the women and men that survived would become slaves to people in other nations. All of the things that they had trusted would be destroyed. Their pride would be turned into sorrow. Here we are reminded against that God will certainly judge sin.

10. Read Isaiah 3:1-26 and write how God said that the men of Judah would fall.

11. Explain why God warned the people of Judah that He was going to judge both the land of Judah and the city of Jerusalem.

12. Explain why you think that the proud women were using all kinds of expensive things to encourage the men to commit adultery with them.

As we begin chapter four, we see the large number of men that God said would be killed at the time when Judah is judged. Seven women will ask one man to marry them. These women will even agree to buy their own food and clothes as long as they do not have to remain single. There would be so few men left at that time that this would be the only way that most of the women will be able to get married. Here we see that these women would do anything to get married because of the lack of men at that time. Suddenly we turn from judgment and read about the time when Christ will rule on the earth.

13. Read Isaiah 4:1-6 and write what the people that are left in the city of Jerusalem will be called at the time when Christ comes to rule.

14. Explain why God said that the lack of men in the time of judgment would cause the women to pay their own expenses in order to be married.

15. Explain why you think that God warned Judah that most of the men would be killed when the enemy came against them.

There is a complete change in this passage as we see the Lord turn from speaking about sin and judgment to the day when Christ will rule on the earth. It will be a great and beautiful day at the time when Christ begins to rule. All of the fruit in that day will be very good. All of the people that are alive when Christ begins His rule will be holy because they have placed their trust in Christ and have turned to Him. In that day Christ will take away the sin of His people. The sinful people will be destroyed. Here we are given a wonderful promise to those who choose to follow the Lord and a warning to those who choose not to follow Him.

16. Read Isaiah 4:1-6 and write what God will create upon Mount Zion.

17. Explain why the Lord promises that all of the people will be holy in the day that Christ begins His rule on the earth.

18. Explain why you think that the earth will experience a great and wonderful time when Christ rules on the earth.

Here we see a beautiful picture of the fact that Christ will be present with His people when He begins His rule on the earth. When the nation of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, God

showed the people that He was with them by protecting them from the heat of the day with a cloud. At night the Lord gave the people light with a pillar of fire. Just as the Lord protected His people when He brought them out of the land of Egypt, He will also protect them in the future when Christ rules on the earth. Today we can also be thankful because we know that Christ is protecting us.

19. Read Isaiah 4:1-6 and write from what the Lord will protect the people from during the daytime.

20. Explain why the Lord showed kindness to the people of Israel by protecting them from the heat during the day and giving them light at night in the wilderness.

21. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that Christ is protecting you and watching over you.

God goes on to compare Israel to a field of grapes. The Lord had taken great care to protect Israel and care for Israel. Instead of getting a good harvest, God had received nothing because Israel had been like a bunch of wild grapes that could not be eaten. God said that He would judge Israel and punish Israel for the sins of the people of Israel. Today we can see some of the results of that judgment that the Lord brought upon the nation of Israel. Instead of being a beautiful field, Israel became a dry desert because the Lord had stopped the rain. This judgment of the people of the nation of Israel lasted for more than 2500 years. God also told Israel that He would bring judgment on six different groups of people.

22. Read Isaiah 5:1-17 and write what group was the first group that the Lord promised to judge.

23. Explain why God brought judgment on the land of Israel for many years by stopping the rain.

24. Explain why you think that God compared Israel to a bunch of wild grapes that could not be eaten.

As we see the various judgments that were promised to the people of Israel we see some additional sins that the people were committing. The rich were continuing to increase their land. The rich did this by causing the poor to get into debt and taking their houses and lands to pay for these debts. God warned the people that those who were guilty of taking the land of others would be judged. Then their land would be worth nothing to them. God described the judgment that they would experience. The Lord said that they would be taken as slaves to foreign countries.

25. Read Isaiah 5:1-17 and write the second group that the Lord promised would experience His judgment.

26. Explain why God warned that the rich that were taking the lands of the poor would be judged for their sin.

27. Explain why you think that the way that God chose to judge the rich was by allowing them to be taken as slaves to a foreign land.

Here we see that the people were getting up early in the morning. However, they were not getting up early so that they could spend their time praying or meditating on the Word of God. Instead they were getting up early so that they could get drunk. Then they would continue to drink all day. They went after drink instead of following the Lord. As a result, God said that He would judge them. The first judgment that they would experience would be on this earth. The men of Judah were taken away to foreign countries. However, there is a greater judgment that follows the first judgment. This is the judgment of the fire of hell. Men will never escape that judgment fire.

28. Read Isaiah 5:1-17 and write what God said that He would do to the mighty men in the day that He judged Judah.

29. Explain what you learn about the sins of the people of Judah in these verses.

30. Explain why you think that many of the people had chosen to follow drink instead of

following the Lord.

The third group of people in the nation of Judah that was promised judgment was the group of people that were following idols. At that time the people would have religious parades and use ropes to pull their idols through the streets of the city. Then they would boast about the power of their idols. They would also laugh at God and say that He had no power to stop them from their evil actions. Today we see that people do exactly the same things that the people of Judah were doing in that day. The people today do not think that they will be judged for the evil things that they are doing. However, one day judgment will come suddenly.

31. Read Isaiah 5:18-30 and write the fourth group of people in the land of Judah that were promised judgment.

32. Explain why the very fact that the people had to pull their idols through the city with ropes should have told them that their idols could not help them.

33. Explain why you think that the people were laughing at God and saying that He had no power to stop them from their evil actions.

Many of the people were calling evil good and good evil. Here we see that there were many people in Judah that were boasting about their sin. They did not even think about getting their hearts right with the Lord. Instead they said that the standards that God had placed in the Word of God were no longer of any value. They only wanted to satisfy their own sinful desires instead of serving the Lord. The fifth group God promised would experience judgment was the group that thought that their own ideas were the best ideas. They boasted about their own knowledge. This group of people thought that they were so smart that they did not need God. It is interesting but each of these sinful attitudes that the Lord mentioned are still present today.

34. Read Isaiah 5:18-30 and write the sixth group of people in the land of Judah that the Lord promised to judge.

35. Explain why people can become so proud of their own knowledge that they do not think that they needed God in their lives.

36. Explain why you think that many people today have also rejected the Word of God and choose to boast about their sin instead.

Here we see that their judges that were supposed to make just decisions were getting drunk. As a result, they did not practice justice as they made decisions. When people did things that were wrong, they would give money to these evil judges. Then the judges would say that the people had done no wrong. The evil judges would also cheat the poor and those who were not able to defend themselves. They did not care about the law of God. They did not judge according to righteous judgment. Instead the only thing that they wanted was to get riches for themselves.

37. Read Isaiah 5:18-30 and write how God said that the enemies that would come to judge Judah would come.

38. Explain what you learn about the sinfulness of the people of Judah from this chapter.

39. Explain why you think that the judges became so corrupt that they took bribes and cheated the poor.

As we see the sinfulness of mankind, we realize that God must bring judgment on sin. Here we see that God warned the people of Judah that the judgment would come from nations of people that lived a long distance from the nation of Israel. They nations would come with their armies suddenly. They would not show any kindness to the people of Judah. Instead they would destroy and kill many of the people. Those who were not killed would be carried away to foreign countries. There would be no one to protect them. Instead the Lord allowed these evil nations to do all of these things to the people of Judah because of the sins of the people of Judah.

40. Read Isaiah 5:18-30 and write what God said that a person would see if that person looked at the land of Judah in the day that God judged that nation.

41. Explain why God warned the people that they would either be killed or taken as captives to

a foreign land.

42. Explain why you think that the Lord allowed the people of a very evil nation to bring judgment on the people of Judah.

Reread Isaiah 3:1-5:30 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 3
Isaiah 6:1-7:25

Today we will learn about the call that the Lord gave to Isaiah as the Lord called him to serve the Lord. We see that God spoke to Isaiah and called him to become a prophet of the Lord in the same year that King Uzziah died. Here we see that the Lord called Isaiah at a time when Isaiah was forced to think. God often uses the things that are happening around us to speak to us and call us to serve Him. We will also learn about the promise that God gave through Isaiah that Christ would one day be born of a virgin. A name was also given for Christ. We will learn that the name that God gave to Christ is Immanuel which means "God with us".

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what happened when God called Isaiah to become a prophet.
- Explain what the Lord told Isaiah to do.
- Explain why God gave the sign that Christ would be born of a virgin.
- Explain what God said about the coming judgment for Judah.

Today people often compare themselves with each other. As long as people compare themselves with other people, such people think that they live lives that are good. Such people focus on the good things in their own lives and the failure in the lives of others. Isaiah also had that same attitude. Isaiah thought that he was a good man until he saw the holiness of God. God is holy and has never committed any sin or done a single thing that is wrong. When we compare ourselves with God, we suddenly realize how sinful our lives are. That is what happened to Isaiah when he saw the holiness of God. God gave Isaiah a vision of that holiness. After seeing that vision from the Lord, Isaiah realized his own sinfulness.

1. Read Isaiah 6:1-13 and write what Isaiah said about himself when He saw the holiness of God.
2. Explain why it is important in our own lives to compare ourselves with God instead of comparing ourselves with other people.
3. Explain why you think that you will also realize your own sinfulness when you compare yourself with God.

Here we see that Isaiah realized the greatness of his sin when he saw the holiness of the Lord. Isaiah realized that he was standing in front of God with no covering for his sin. He realized that he was a part of a nation of people that was filled with sin. However, we also see a wonderful picture of the forgiveness of the Lord. As soon as Isaiah confessed to the Lord that he was a sinner, God immediately forgave and removed his sin. This is also a wonderful promise about what the Lord does for us today. As soon as we confess our sin to the Lord, we know that God has forgiven us and cleansed us. We do not need to worry about that sin any longer.

4. Read Isaiah 6:1-13 and write the question that God asked Isaiah after He had cleansed Isaiah from his sin.
5. Explain why God immediately forgave and removed the sin of Isaiah as soon as he confessed his sin to the Lord.
6. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord immediately forgave you sin when you came to Him in repentance and faith.

As soon as the Lord saves us, He asks us the same question. Christ wants Christians that are willing to go where Christ asks them to go and speak the things that Christ asks them to speak. This is the place where we as Christians must choose whether we are going to obey or disobey Christ. We can choose to act according to our old desires or we can choose to be obedient

Christians. Isaiah chose to obey the Lord. He was willing to go where God wanted to send him. He was willing to speak the words that the Lord wanted him to speak. Today we need to examine our own lives and see if we are obeying the command of Christ to tell others how they can also become Christians or to see if we are living in disobedience.

7. Read Isaiah 6:1-13 and write what the Lord said that the people of Judah would not do when Isaiah spoke the Word of God to them.

8. Explain why it is important to understand that if we are true Christians that we will want to obey the Lord instead of following our old desires.

9. Explain how verse eight applies to you in your own life.

After Isaiah said that he would go and speak for the Lord, Isaiah learned about the people to whom he was supposed to speak. He learned that he would be speaking to a group of people that would not listen to the message that God gave him to speak. Their eyes and ears would be closed to the message that God was giving to Isaiah. Here we learn a real lesson about obedience and faithfulness. We are to be faithful in speak the message that the Lord gives us to speak even when it seems that the people to whom we are speaking will not listen. Our call is to be obedient to the Lord. God will use our faithfulness to complete His plan.

10. Read Isaiah 6:1-13 and write how long the Lord said that the people of Judah would refuse to listen.

11. Explain why the Lord called Isaiah to speak for Him and then told Isaiah that the people would not listen to Isaiah when he spoke for God.

12. Explain why our call is to be obedient to the Lord and our faithfulness to the Lord will make it possible for Him to complete His plan for our lives.

Here we see that the Lord told Isaiah that the people of Israel and Judah had become so hard in their hearts that they would not listen. Instead it would become necessary for the Lord to judge them by taking them away to foreign countries. God said that it was necessary for Him to make the land a place where no people lived. The people could not remain in the land. Instead God said that the people would be judged and would become slaves in other countries. This should also be a warning to people in our time that continue to reject the Word of God. If people continue to reject Christ, a day of judgment will also come for them.

13. Read Isaiah 7:1-9 and write what country God said would join with Israel to fight against Judah.

14. Explain why God said that the sins of the people of Judah would make it necessary for Him to make Judah a land where no people lived.

15. Explain why you know that if people continue to reject the Word of God that they will one day face a certain judgment.

When Ahaz was the king of Judah the nations of Ephraim (Israel) and Syria joined together to come and fight against the land of Judah. As a result, Ahaz and all of the people of Judah were filled with fear. Although Ahaz was a descendent of the family of David, he refused to worship the Lord. This was the reason why he was filled with fear. He was depending on his own strength because he refused to worship and serve the Lord. People will always be filled with fear when they are depending on their own strength. They do not have anyone to help them in their time of trouble.

16. Read Isaiah 7:1-9 and write who was told to go and talk to King Ahaz during this time.

17. Explain why people will always be filled with fear when they choose to depend on their own strength.

18. Explain why you think that many people today are filled with fear because they are depending on their own strength.

Isaiah was told to take his son, Shear-Jashub, with him as he went to speak to Ahaz. The name of his son means that a small group will return. God also gave Isaiah a message for Ahaz from

the Lord. God told Ahaz to be quiet and not to be afraid. This is the same message that God still offers to all those who are afraid. If we are not led by Christ, we will fear people. If we are led by Christ, we will be led by love instead of fear. When people come to Christ and place their trust in Him, they do not need to be afraid any longer. As they learn to yield their lives to Christ, He will give them peace and rest because they are safe in Him.

19. Read Isaiah 7:1-9 and write how many years God said it would be until both Ephraim and Syria would be taken captive.

20. Explain why God told Ahaz to be quiet and not to be afraid any longer.

21. Explain why it is important to you to know that you can be led by the love of Christ instead of being driven by the fear of other people.

God went on to tell Ahaz why he did not need to be afraid. God said that He knew that Ephraim and Syria had agreed to fight together against the people of Judah. Of course the Lord knew all about the plans of those two nations. However, God also knew when both of these nations would be destroyed. God said that within sixty-five years Ephraim would not even be a people. Within twelve years both Syria and Ephraim had been destroyed. By the end of sixty-five years a group of people from other foreign nations had been moved into the land of Ephraim so that the people of Ephraim did not even have a land any more.

22. Read Isaiah 7:10-16 and write what God told Ahaz to ask to show that God would keep His Word.

23. Explain why God removed both Ephraim and Syria from being a threat to Judah in a very short time.

24. Explain why you think that God can give us peace even when there are people that are planning evil against us.

Here we see that the Lord will always show that His promises are true. Ahaz could ask God to do anything on the earth or in the heavens. God said that He would do whatever Ahaz asked. However, Ahaz refused to ask for a sign. He said that he did not want to test God. Here we see that Ahaz was only telling a lie in an effort to try and cover his own sin. He had made a secret agreement with the king of Assyria so that the king of Assyria would help Judah in case Ephraim and Syria came together to fight against Judah. Here we see a picture of the way that people without the Lord try to solve their problems. They follow their own ideas instead of turning to the Lord for help.

25. Read Isaiah 7:10-16 and write what sign God said that He would give even though Ahaz refused to ask for a sign.

26. Explain why Ahaz refused to ask the Lord for a sign because of the fact that he was trying to cover his own sin.

27. Explain why you think that Ahaz was trying to follow his own secret plans instead of turning to the Lord for help.

Here we see that God said that the coming of Christ would be the proof of the promise of God. Immanuel means "God with us". When Christ came to this earth, He was God and He came to live with mankind. John 1:14 tells us that Christ became flesh and lived among us. As a result, mankind was able to see the glory of God revealed to the entire world through Christ. We see that the sign to Ahaz was the promise that Christ would be born of a virgin. From the New Testament, we know that God completed this promise exactly as He had promised. We also know that God will keep every promise that He has given to us in the Bible.

28. Read Isaiah 7:10-16 and write what God said would happen to the kings of both Ephraim and Syria.

29. Explain why it is important to understand that God has kept all of His promises in the Bible including the fact that Christ was born of a virgin.

30. Explain why you think that God wanted Ahaz to know that the world would see Christ living among us so that we could see the glory of God.

Ahaz refused to accept the promise of God. Instead Ahaz chose to depend on his own plans. The promise of God was given to the entire family of David. Ahaz was given the opportunity to see that promise completed. However, Ahaz made the choice to reject the promise that God had made to him. As a result, Ahaz missed a wonderful blessing that he could have had in his life if he would have believed the Lord. Here we learn an important lesson for our own lives. We are the ones that will miss the blessing if we fail to accept the promises of the Lord. God will still keep His promises but we will miss the blessing if we fail to believe those promises.

31. Read Isaiah 7:10-16 and write what God said that Christ would eat.

32. Explain why Ahaz missed some very important blessings in his own life because he refused to believe the promise that the Lord gave.

33. Explain why it is important for you to know that you will miss the blessings of the Lord if you fail to accept and believe His promises.

We go on to read about the judgment that God promised would come on the nation of Judah because the king and the people failed to believe the promises of the Lord. God said that He would even use the nation that Judah had trusted to be the nation that would punish Judah. God allowed the countries of Assyria and Egypt to fight against each other in the land of Judah. As the two countries fought against each other, much damage was done to the land of Judah. Both armies took food and the others things that they needed from the land of Judah.

34. Read Isaiah 7:17-25 and write who God said would be His razor to shave Judah for their rejection of Him.

35. Explain why God chose to use the nation that Judah had trusted to help bring judgment on the nation of Judah.

36. Explain why you think that God often allows both people and nations to experience judgment through the wrong choices that they make.

Here we learn a real lesson about the way that we will fail if we choose to place our trust in men instead of placing our trust in the Lord. Ahaz had depended on the king of Assyria to protect Judah from Ephraim and Syria. Ahaz even paid a large amount of money to the king of Assyria for that protection. Now God promised that the king of Assyria would be the one that caused great suffering in the land of Judah. When we trust in our own plans instead of trusting in the Lord, we will also experience suffering in our lives. When we leave the Lord out of our plans, we can expect that we will experience failure through our own plans.

37. Read Isaiah 7:17-25 and write what God said would grow in the places where the people had raised their vineyards.

38. Explain why it is dangerous to trust in our own plans instead of praying to the Lord and asking Him to give us His wisdom.

39. Explain why you think that God has given us many examples in the Bible of the danger of depending on our own plans.

We see that the judgment of Judah by the nation of Assyria was very great. The people that were left would have only a few cattle and sheep left because the rest would be killed or taken away. There would be so many people taken away that the fields would be filled with briars and thorns because there would be no one to take care of many of the fields. The animals would control the land instead of the people because many of the people would be taken out of the land. It was not very many years later that the king of Assyria did exactly what the Lord had predicted. The Assyrian king destroyed many cities in Judah and took thousands of the people of Judah back to Assyria as slaves.

40. Read Isaiah 7:17- 25 and write what kind of animals the Lord said would control the land.

41. Explain why God warned Judah that they would experience severe consequences from Assyria because they had looked to Assyria for help.

42. Explain why you think that people that do not know Christ may try to deceive you if you look to them for help.

Reread Isaiah 6:1-7:25 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 4
Isaiah 8:1-9:21

We have studied several warnings of coming judgment that the Lord gave to the people of the nation of Judah. However, God also warned of coming judgment for the northern kingdom of Israel. The people of both Israel and Judah had turned their backs to the Lord and were following their own sinful ways. However, right in the middle of these chapters of coming judgment, we have some more wonderful promises about the coming of Christ. We are promised that the day will come when Christ will come to rule the earth. In addition, He will also be the ruler for all eternity.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what we learn about the judgment of Damascus and Samaria.
- Explain what we learn about those who believe.
- Explain what we learn about Christ in this lesson.

In our last lesson we learned the meaning of the name of the first son of Isaiah. However, that was not the only son of Isaiah. Today we read about the second son of Isaiah. When the second son of Isaiah was born, Isaiah was told to name his second son by the name of Maher-shalal-hash-bez. That name means, "Haste ye, haste ye, to the spoil." This name was a warning to the nation of Judah that the Assyrians would come quickly to destroy the land of Damascus (Syria) and Samaria (Ephraim). God also included a warning that Assyria would come to fight against Judah.

1. Read Isaiah 8:1-8 and write how quickly the cities of Damascus and Samaria would be destroyed.
2. Explain why God said that the name of the second son of Isaiah was a warning that the Assyrians would come quickly to destroy Syria and Ephraim.
3. Explain why you think that God used the meaning of the names of the sons of Isaiah to give a message to the people.

Here we see that the Lord promised that the judgment of Damascus and Samaria would come very quickly. The Lord said that the king of Assyria would come and take away the riches of the cities of Damascus and Samaria before Maher-shalal-hash-bez was able to talk. God is very patient and had waited many years to judge the sins of these nations. However, the Lord said that the time had now come for these nations to be judged. In the same way, many people today think that they are getting away with their sin. In fact they are experiencing the patience and longsuffering of the Lord. Here we see again that the time of judgment will come to those who rebel against the Lord.

4. Read Isaiah 8:1-8 and write what Judah was refusing.
5. Explain why many people think that they are getting away with their sin when the Lord does not judge them immediately.
6. Explain why you think that the Lord has such great patience that He waited a long time before bringing judgment.

Shiloah was the pool of water that is called the Pool of Siloam in the New Testament. It was a pool of healing waters. Here we see that Judah was rejoicing in the judgment of its enemies and was refusing to rest in the promises of the Lord. As a result, God said that the Assyrians would come against Judah like a flood. They would come up to the neck. That meant that the Assyrians would destroy everything except the city of Jerusalem. Even the city of Jerusalem would suffer. Because the people failed to trust in the promises of the Lord, they would almost

be destroyed. Here is a real warning to trust in the promises of the Lord instead of trying to trust in our own strength.

7. Read Isaiah 8:1-8 and write how much of the land of Judah the nation of Assyria would occupy.
8. Explain what God promised would happen to the nation of Judah because the people failed to trust the promises of God.
9. Explain why you think that many people trust in their own strength instead of trusting the Lord for strength.

God went on to warn the people of Judah again that if the people made their own plans and joined together with other nations that they would be destroyed. Instead they needed to look to the Lord to guide them. The reason that Judah did not need to be afraid was due to the fact that Judah was the land of Immanuel. As we already saw, Immanuel means “God with us”. God said that He would not allow the land to be destroyed as long as the people trusted in the Lord. Isaiah warned Judah not to walk in the way of the other nations and trust in the things in which man trusts. Instead the people were encouraged to walk in the way that God wanted them to walk.

10. Read Isaiah 8:9-22 and write who Judah was to fear instead of fearing the foreign nations.
11. Explain why the Lord promised the land of Judah that they would not be destroyed as long as they trusted in the Lord.
12. Explain why you think that God reminded the people of Judah that their land was the land of Immanuel.

God told Judah that if they would trust and worship the Lord that they would not need to fear the nations that were around them. In the same way, as we trust and worship the Lord, we will not need to fear other people. The Lord is also our place of rest and our protection. To those who fail to place their trust in the Lord, Christ is like a rock that causes people to stumble and fall. The nation of Judah was falling because the people refused to place their trust in God. This is the reason that the names of the sons of Isaiah were given as signs to the nation of Judah. God was going to judge Judah but He also promised that He would keep a small group of people that continued to believe the promises of God.

13. Read Isaiah 8:9-22 and write where the people would be driven because they had turned away from the Lord.
14. Explain what God warned Judah that Christ would be like a rock that caused people to stumble and fall if they did not put their trust in the Lord.
15. Explain why it is important for you to know in your own life that you do not need to fear people when your trust is in the Lord.

We also see a real picture of what happens to people when they turn away from God. When this happens, the people begin to depend on evil spirits and follow those people that are controlled by evil spirits. They are spiritually blind and cannot see because they have no light in their lives. They are hungry. Their lives are empty. They curse God. Everywhere they look, they see trouble. Their lives are filled with sorrow and sadness. Here we see a real picture of the results of sin. Instead of bringing joy and gladness, sin brings sorrow and sadness.

16. Read Isaiah 8:9-22 and write from whom Isaiah said that God would hide His face.
17. Explain what you learn about the results of turning away from the Lord and choosing to follow sin from these verses.
18. Explain why you think that God warned the people that if they looked to evil spirits that they would become controlled by those evil spirits.

As we see the results of sin from Isaiah 8, we see a very dark picture. Those who are controlled by sin have no hope. It is just at the time that things look the worst that Christ comes to offer

hope. As we come to chapter nine, we have some wonderful promises about the birth of Christ. The Lord had a message of hope at the very time that Judah was without hope. In these verses we are given the promise that Christ would live in the area of Galilee. This was the very area where the Assyrians had brought great darkness. Now God gave the promise that Christ would come as a great light. Without Christ people had nothing except death facing them. Now God offered them light and life through Christ.

19. Read Isaiah 9:1-7 and write what God said that Christ would do for the nation of Israel in addition to offering light.

20. Explain why it is important to realize that God promised that Christ would come as a great light to the people.

21. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to walk in the light that Christ gives instead of walking in darkness.

Here we see that God gave a great promise to the nation of Israel. In Romans 11 we read that one day the entire nation of Israel will turn to Christ and follow Him. In Genesis 12 we read that all of the nations would be blessed through Christ, the One that would come from Abraham. Through the death and resurrection of Christ, eternal life is offered to all people. Christ will replace sadness with joy. Christ will judge the evil nations just as Midian was judged during the time of Gideon. Those who place their trust in Christ will receive great blessing while those who fail to follow Christ will receive great judgment for their sin.

22. Read Isaiah 9:1-7 and write the first name that is given to Christ in these verses.

23. Explain why it is important to know that one day in the future that all of the Jews will turn to Christ and place their trust in Him.

24. Explain why you think that God gave Abraham the promise that all of the nations would be blessed through him.

We see in these verses that God promised that Christ would be born and that He would be given to us. The fact that Christ experienced human birth shows that Christ was a man. The fact that Christ was given to us shows us that Christ was God and that He came from God. As the One that is both God and Man, Christ is first given the name of Wonderful. He is given this name because He is the One that can do what no other man is able to do. He is Wonderful because He is the One that died for the sins of all mankind. Christ is also the Wonderful Counselor because He is the only one that can solve all of the problems of mankind.

25. Read Isaiah 9:1-7 and write what kind of God Christ is called.

26. Explain why it is important to understand that Christ is fully man and also fully God.

27. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that Christ is the One that is the Wonderful Counselor.

As the Mighty God, Christ is the One that is in control of all of the things that happen in both the heavens and the earth. Nothing can happen without Christ allowing it to happen. As the Everlasting Father, Christ is the One that will rule forever. He is also the One that gives everlasting life to all those who follow Him. As the Prince of Peace, Christ is the One that gives peace to men. First we have peace in our hearts because we know that our sins are forgiven. Then we have peace with God because Christ has removed our sins. Finally we have peace with other Christians because the peace of God controls our lives.

28. Read Isaiah 9:1-7 and write how long the government of Christ will last.

29. Explain what you learn about Christ from the names that are given to Christ in these verses.

30. Explain why it is important for you to know that you can have peace with God, peace within yourself and peace with others.

We also learn about the way that Christ will rule when He begins to rule the earth. We see that there will be peace on the earth when Christ rules. However, His rule does not stop with His rule on this earth. We also know that Christ will rule forever. He will sit on the throne of

David and complete the promises that were given to David in II Samuel 7. When Christ rules on the earth, there will be true justice throughout the earth. All of the judgments of Christ will be right when He rules. Christ will rule with righteousness because He is holy and without sin.

31. Read Isaiah 9:1-7 and write how long this righteousness will last.
32. Explain why all of the judgments of Christ will be right when He rules on the earth.
33. Explain what you think that the earth will be like when there is true justice throughout the earth.

After giving these wonderful promises about Christ, God began to speak again about the judgment of Ephraim (Israel). God shows us a real picture of the pride of the people of Ephraim. Although the Assyrians had destroyed the country of Ephraim, the people were boasting that they would rebuild their cities and make them stronger. They said that they would also make better houses. However, the Lord said that the countries that had fought with Ephraim before this time would now join with Assyria to fight against Ephraim. God said that He would use these foreign nations to judge Ephraim because of the pride of Ephraim.

34. Read Isaiah 9:8-21 and write whether the judgment of Ephraim would satisfy the anger of God against their sin.
35. Explain why God was going to use the very nations that fought with Ephraim to now bring judgment on Ephraim.
36. Explain why you think that the people of Ephraim were boasting that they would build stronger cities and make better houses.

Although the Lord brought great judgment on Ephraim, the people refused to turn from their sin and turn to the Lord. Instead they continued to live in their sin and rebellion. The leaders of the people should have been teaching the people about God. Instead the leaders were teaching the people to live the wrong way. The prophets should have been speaking to the people for the Lord. Instead they had false prophets that were telling the people lies. As a result, all of the people from the youngest to the oldest were doing evil. Here we see a real warning about the wrong kind of leaders. Evil leaders will lead the people the wrong way. They will cause the people to live in sin.

37. Read Isaiah 9:8-21 and write what God said would cause the land of Ephraim to become darkened.
38. Explain what you learn from these verses about the danger of leaders that do not teach the Word of God to the people.
39. Explain why you think that a nation will always become more evil when that nation has leaders that practice evil.

We go on to read more about the awfulness of sin. We see that sin is like a great fire. It will always burn and destroy the lives of those who are living in sin. In addition, those who continue to live in sin will receive eternal destruction in the lake of fire and brimstone. There will be no escape for them. God also gave a picture of the judgment that the people would experience in the land. There would be such a lack of food in the land that people would begin to steal to satisfy their hunger. Even though they stole what they could, they would not have enough food to satisfy their hunger.

40. Read Isaiah 9:8-21 and write what people would chew and eat in an effort to try and satisfy their hunger.
41. Explain why it is important to understand that those who continue to live in sin will receive eternal destruction in the lake of fire and brimstone.
42. Explain why you think that God said that the hunger of the people would become so great that they could not even steal enough to satisfy their hunger.

Reread Isaiah 8:1-9:21 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters today.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 5
Isaiah 10:1-12:6

One of the countries that was very powerful during the time of Israel was the nation of Assyria. It was also a very sinful nation. We have already seen that the nation of Assyria fought against both Israel and Judah. God allowed this sinful nation to fight against His people to punish them for serving other gods. However, God promised that the people of Assyria would also be punished for their sin after they were allowed to punish the chosen nations of the Lord. After we read about the judgment of Assyria, we will study some wonderful promises that the Lord gave about what will happen when Christ sets up His kingdom on the earth.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what God said about the judgment of Assyria.
- Explain what we learn about a small group in Judah returning to their land.
- Explain some of the changes that will happen when Christ becomes the King of the earth.
- Explain how people will feel when Christ sets up His kingdom.

In our last lesson, we learned about the judgment that God brought on the nation of Israel. In the first few verses today we will learn a little more about that judgment. We see that God said that the judges of Israel would also be judged. This would happen because they had not judged according to righteousness. They did not show justice to the needy. They cheated the poor. They took advantage of the widows. They robbed the children whose parents had died. Because of their sin, God promised that the judges would have no one to help them in the day when they were judged. Instead they would receive the judgment of the Lord.

1. Read Isaiah 10:1-19 and write what other nation is promised judgment in this chapter.
2. Explain why God said the fact that the judges had taken advantage of the needy, the poor, the widows and the fatherless meant that they judges would be judged.
3. Explain why you think that the Lord has a great concern for the people that are unable to protect themselves.

We have already seen what Assyria did to both Israel and Judah. As we read these verses, we see why God said that Assyria must be judged. Assyria had become a very proud nation because of their victories over the counties around them. The Assyrians thought that their gods were more powerful than the gods of any other nation. They thought their gods were even stronger than the true and living God. Because the Assyrians had destroyed Samaria, the capital of Israel, the Assyrians also thought that they could destroy the city of Jerusalem. Here we see a real picture of the sinful pride of man.

4. Read Isaiah 10:1-19 and write what the Lord said that He would do to the king of Assyria.
5. Explain what these verses teach about the pride of the nation of Assyria.
6. Explain why you think that God warns that He will be the judge of those who are proud.

Assyria was boasting about its great strength. However, God said that He would judge Assyria after Assyria had completed the plan of the Lord. Because of the sins of Israel and Judah, God was allowing Assyria to have victory over those two nations. However, God said that after He had completed His purpose of judging Israel and Judah, then God said that He would judge Assyria for her rebellion against God. Here we see the reason why God allows sinful nations to continue to exist for a time. He is using them to judge others that are living in sin.

7. Read Isaiah 10:1-19 and write how many trees the Lord said would be left when He brought judgment.

8. Explain what you learn from these verses about the fact that God does use sinful nations to complete His purpose.
9. Explain why you think that God allows sinful nations to exist for a period of time before He brings judgment upon them.

God also promised that a small remnant would return to the land of Judah after the Lord had completed His purpose of judging the nations of Israel and Judah. A remnant means that there would be a small group that would return back to the land after they had been taken as slaves to foreign countries. God said that when this small group came back, they would trust in the Lord instead of trusting the countries around them. They would ask the Lord for His help and protection. Here we see that there has always been a small group of Jews that have followed the Lord even though most of the people have turned away from the Lord.

10. Read Isaiah 10:20-34 and write what country Judah did not need to fear.
11. Explain why God said that the small group that returned to the land would trust the Lord instead of trusting other nations for help.
12. Explain why you think that throughout history the Lord has preserved a small group of people that trust in Him.

God said that Judah did not need to fear Assyria because the days of Assyria were numbered. God said that He would judge Assyria just as He had judged Egypt and Midian in the past. As we study the history of the world, we see that every single nation that has made the Jews suffer has eventually been judged by the Lord. God will continue to judge the nations that persecute the Jews. The Lord will do this until the day when Christ returns to rule on the earth. In that day the Jews will be free from any more persecution by the other nations of the world.

13. Read Isaiah 10:20-34 and write how the cities of Judah would feel when they saw the Assyrians coming against them.
14. Explain why God has always brought judgment on those nations that have persecuted the Jews.
15. Explain why you think that many different nations have persecuted the Jews and made them suffer.

God told the people of Judah that they would be afraid because of the Assyrians. Here we are reminded of what happens when people do not have their trust in the Lord. Everything around them causes them to be filled with fear. Today we see that many people around us are filled with fear as they look at the things that are happening in the world around them. We do not have to have this same attitude. If our trust is in the Lord, we see that we do not need to be afraid. The Lord will protect the remnant (the small group of people) that has their trust in Him. God promised the people of Judah that He would judge the enemy just like a man cuts the branches off of a tree. God said that He would cut them down and destroy their pride. Assyria would not stand before God.

16. Read Isaiah 10:20-34 and write what the Lord said that He would do to the people that were proud and haughty.
17. Explain what you learn from these verses about the fact that the Lord will protect those who serve Him.
18. Explain why you think that the lives of many people that are living today are also filled with fear.

For the past two generations, the Jews have been returning to the land of Israel. This was the promise that the Lord gave to the people through Isaiah that the Jews would one day begin to return to the land. God said that there would be One person that came out of the family of Jesse that would rule in the right way. Today we know that Christ is the One that is the branch that

comes out of the root of Jesse. Before very long, the day will come when Christ will rule on the earth for one thousand years. When Christ rules on the earth, He will rule the right way because He has all wisdom and all understanding. As a result, people should worship and fear Christ.

19. Read Isaiah 11:1-10 and write how this passage says that Christ will not judge.

20. Explain why Christ is called the branch out of the root of Jesse.

21. Explain why you think that over the last one hundred years the Lord has been bringing Jews from various parts of the world back to Jerusalem.

Here we see that when Christ rules that He will not make His judgments by what He sees or what He hears. Instead Christ will judge according to what is right because He is the One that knows all things. He will give the poor a fair judgment instead of cheating them. He will destroy those who are evil because of their sin. No one will be able to trick Christ by telling lies because Christ knows the thoughts of all people. In addition to judging in the right way, Christ will also be faithful to His Father in all things. We see that when Christ rules on the earth that even the animals will be changed.

22. Read Isaiah 11:1-10 and write what the Lord said that the wolf will do in that day.

23. Explain why Christ will rule with fair judgment and not be deceived by those who would try to deceive Him.

24. Explain why it is important for you to understand that Christ knows the thoughts of all people.

Among the great changes that will happen when Christ rules on the earth will be the changing of the animals. The animals will no longer eat each other. Even a lamb will be safe with a wolf or a leopard. A calf will be safe with a lion. In fact even a small child will be able to lead all of these animals. Instead of eating other animals, the lions will eat straw. A child will be able to play with the snakes and the snakes will not hurt the child. Only Christ could make these great changes in the animals. Christ will do that because He will be the ruler over all things.

25. Read Isaiah 11:1-10 and write where there will not be hurting or destruction.

26. Explain why God is going to change the animals when Christ comes to rule on the earth.

27. Explain why you think that the Lord says that even a child will be able to lead the wild animals in the time when Christ rules.

Here we see that there will be no fighting or hurting in all of the area where Christ rules. The animals will not hurt each other. People will not fight against one another. People all over the earth will know about Christ. In fact the people of the earth will all worship Christ as He begins His rule. Christ will be the ruler of the entire earth. His rule will be a wonderful rule because there will be a peace on the earth that only Christ can bring to the earth. In that day the hearts of men will be controlled by love instead of being controlled by fear or hate.

28. Read Isaiah 11:1-10 and write what the earth will be full of in the time when Christ rules on the earth.

29. Explain what you learn about the changes that Christ will make on the earth when He comes back to rule.

30. Explain why you think that the earth will be very different when the hearts of people are controlled by love instead of being controlled by fear.

We also learn about the way that Christ will set up His kingdom when He returns to become the ruler of the whole earth. First, Christ will gather the Jews together from all of the places where they have been scattered. It will not matter in what part of the earth the Jews will be in that day. The Lord will bring them back to the land that He promised to Abraham. During the time of Isaiah, Ephraim (Israel) and Judah were fighting against each other. When Christ comes back to rule, the people of these two nations will not hate each other any more. Instead Christ will

unite them into one country again.

31. Read Isaiah 11:11-12:6 and write what the children of Ammon and the other nations will do in that day when Christ rules.

32. Explain why the Jews can look forward to the time when Christ will regather the Jews from all of the places where they have been scattered.

33. Explain why you think that God chose to judge Israel for their sin by scattering the people rather than completely destroying them.

Here we see that even the nations that have been enemies of Israel will not longer fight against Israel. In fact no nation will fight against Israel. The nations that now hate the Jews will serve the Jews in that day. The Lord will cause the Nile River and the Euphrates River to become dry so that a great road may be built leading to Jerusalem from both directions. This great road will make it possible for people to come to Jerusalem without anything to stop them. The Lord made some great promises to Abraham and to David. Here we see that Christ will fulfill the promises to Abraham and David when He rules the earth.

34 Read Isaiah 11:11-12:6 and write what the people will say in that day when the Lord is ruler over the entire earth.

35 Explain why it is important to understand that the Lord will fulfill all of the promises that were made to Abraham and David.

36 Explain why you think that the Lord will make a great road from both directions that will lead to Jerusalem.

As we study this passage, we see several reasons why people will be filled with praise to Christ. First, we see that Christ is the only One that can offer comfort. He is also the One that provided our salvation through His death and resurrection. When we place our trust in Him, He takes away our fear. Christ is also the One that gives us strength so that we are strong. In addition, we see that Christ puts a song in our hearts. Just as Christ does all of these things today for those who have trusted Him, Christ will also do these things for His people when He comes back to this earth to be their king. All of His chosen ones will be filled with joy in that day.

37. Read 11:11-12:6 and write from where the people will draw water in that day when Christ rules on the earth.

38. Explain why we should be filled with joy because of the fact that God is going to keep His promises to His people.

39. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that the Lord wants all those who trust in Him to be filled with joy.

In that day when Christ becomes the king of the earth, the people of the earth will be filled with joy. They will sing and be filled with praise to the Lord. They will tell all of the people about the things that Christ does as He rules. Everyone throughout the earth will lift up the name of Christ. The earth will be filled with singing to the Lord because of all of the wonderful things that Christ has done. Here we see that the earth will be a very different place during the time that Christ rules. Joy and thankfulness to the Lord will replace the sinful activities that control the people of our earth in the present.

40. Read Isaiah 11:1-12:6 and write who will be crying and shouting about the wonderful things that Christ has done.

41. Explain why all of the people will want to talk about the works of Christ when He rules on the earth.

42. Explain what you think the earth will be like when the entire earth is filled with joy and thankfulness.

Reread Isaiah 10:1-12:6 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 6
Isaiah 13:1-15:9

Today we will be starting a study of the judgments of the nations that the Lord told Isaiah to write. Most of our lesson today will be spent studying the judgment that the Lord promised to Babylon. We will also learn about the fact that Satan (Lucifer) is the evil power behind all sinful nations. He is the one who encourages the rulers of evil nations to be filled with pride. In fact we will see that the pride of the rulers of Babylon gives us a picture of the pride of Satan. Just as Babylon was destroyed by the Lord, Satan will also one day be destroyed.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how God said that He would judge the nation of Babylon.
- Explain how the king of Babylon gives us a picture of the pride of Satan.
- Explain what you learn about the judgment of Assyria, Philistia and Moab.

God told Isaiah how He was going to bring judgment on many different nations. As we come to the judgment promised to Babylon, we see that the Lord actually talks about two Babylons. The first Babylon is the city of Babylon that destroyed the city of Jerusalem. The second Babylon is the Babylon that is explained in the book of Revelation. The second Babylon is the Gentile world powers that will be against the Jews until the time that Christ returns to rule the earth. As we begin our study, we see that a great army is gathered together against the Jews. This army thinks that it has been chosen to fight against the people of Israel. However, we see that the Lord has actually gathered this army together so that He can complete His plan and purpose.

1. Read Isaiah 13:1-22 and write from where God said this great army would come.
2. Explain why Isaiah talked about both the Babylon that was present in his time and also about the future Babylon mentioned in Revelation.
3. Explain why you think that the Lord is the one that actually gathers the nations to fight against Israel so that He can complete his plan and purpose.

When the army of Babylon came against Jerusalem, it came to destroy the whole land of Judah. The future army of the Gentile powers will also try to destroy the whole land. The first army defeated the city of Jerusalem. As a result, that army was judged by the Lord. The judgment at that time gives us a picture of the future judgment that will happen to the armies of the Gentile nations. When God brings judgment on any nation, that judgment is a great and terrible judgment because the Lord has allowed the people of that nation to sin for a long time before He finally brought that judgment. God said that He would make the land of Babylon an empty waste and destroy the sinners that were in that nation.

4. Read Isaiah 13:1-22 and write what the Lord said will happen to the stars when the Lord brings the future judgment of the nations of the Gentiles.
5. Explain why the defeat of the original Babylon gives us a picture of the defeat of the future Babylon.
6. Explain why you think that God allows the people of a nation to sin for a long time before He finally brings judgment on them.

Here we see that God describes a judgment that will affect the sun, the moon and the stars as well as the earth. This reminds us that the whole world will be punished for its evil. In fact very few people will be left alive by the time this judgment is complete. The heavens and the earth will be shaken by the Lord. In this judgment, many will go to their own land and try to hide themselves from the wrath of the Lord. We also see that as men fight against each other that they will kill the children, destroy the houses and commit immoral acts with the women.

7. Read Isaiah 13:1-22 and write what nation God said that He would bring against Babylon to judge Babylon.
8. Explain what these verses teach about the future judgment when the Lord will shake the heavens and the earth.
9. Explain why you think God had Isaiah tell about the future judgment that will affect the entire earth.

The Medes were very brutal as they fought against various nations. When the Medes destroyed Babylon, they did not show any pity. By the time that God completed the judgment of Babylon by the Medes, there was nothing left of Babylon. The entire city was completely destroyed. God also said that no one would live in the city of Babylon. Even today the Arabs are afraid to stay near the place where the city of Babylon once stood. The only things that live in the area where the city once stood are the wild animals. Here we see a real warning to those who continue to live in sin. Just as God judged the city of Babylon, God will one day judge all sinners.

10. Read Isaiah 13:1-22 and write to what cities the Lord compares the destruction of the city of Babylon.
11. Explain what you learn about what God said about the judgment of the city of Babylon from this chapter.
12. Explain why the place where the city of Babylon was destroyed is a place that the people of the land fear.

We read that there will be great joy in Israel at the defeat of Babylon. Isaiah said that Israel would have peace and rest from its enemies. Here we see that Isaiah was looking forward to the time when the second Babylon will be destroyed. At that time Israel will rule over all of the other nations and Christ will be the One that rules. There will no longer be any fear in the nation of Israel in that day. Instead the Lord is the One who will defeat the second Babylon. It is the Lord that will bring peace and quiet to the entire earth. This will bring great joy and singing.

13. Read Isaiah 14:1-17 and write what kind of trees will rejoice at the fall of Babylon.
14. Explain why the defeat of the second Babylon and the return of Christ to rule the earth will bring peace and quiet to the entire earth.
15. Explain how you think that Isaiah felt as He wrote about the time when Israel would have peace and rest from all of its enemies.

Here we see that even the things that the Lord has created will rejoice because of the fall of Babylon. Even hell is also waiting for the coming of those evil people who will be destroyed in that day. We see here again that Babylon includes many nations and kings. In the future judgment of the Babylon mentioned in Revelation, there will be many nations that all join together against the nation of Israel. The Lord will bring this judgment very suddenly. The kings of the nations will look with wonder and surprise when they see that the leader of Babylon has fallen with them.

16. Read Isaiah 14:1-17 and write the name of the one whose fall from heaven is described in these verses.
17. Explain why the people of Israel will be filled with joy as they see the way that the Lord judges the nations.
18. Explain why you think that the world will be amazed at the suddenness of the judgment of the future Babylon.

As we see the judgment of the city of Babylon, we see a real picture of the pride of the leader of Babylon. This form of pride was the kind of pride that the leaders of the city of Babylon demonstrated as they ruled their empire. However, we see an even greater picture of the pride of the leader of the Babylon that is mentioned in the book of Revelation. This chapter also

shows us the person that is really trying to destroy the Jews. As you remember, the Babylon in the book of Revelation is the Gentile world powers which try to destroy both Christ and the Jews. They will do everything possible to carry out the desire of their leader.

19. Read Isaiah 14:1-17 and write the name of the leader of these Gentile world powers that will try to destroy the Jews.

20. Explain what these verses teach about the danger of pride and the source of pride especially among the leaders of powerful nations.

21. Explain why you think that even when proud leaders do not realize it that they are actually carrying out the desires of Satan.

Here we see that Satan himself is the real leader of those who are trying to destroy the Jews. In fact throughout history, Satan has tried in every way to destroy the people of God in his efforts to prevent Christ from paying the penalty that has made it possible for us to have our sins forgiven. Because of his pride, we read that Satan is promised that he will be brought down to the pit. Satan thought that he could become God. In fact he thought that he could raise himself above God. He thought that he could become the ruler of all things. Here we see a real picture of the sin that caused Satan to fall. He became proud. Today this is still a sin that people commit time after time. They boast about the things that they are going to do.

22. Read Isaiah 14:1-17 and write what God said that He would do to the king of Babylon, to Satan and to all others who become proud.

23. Explain why the pride of Satan caused him to think that he could raise himself above God.

24. Explain why you think that pride has been such a common sin throughout the history of the world.

God only allows sin to continue for a certain period of time. Then the time of judgment comes. Here we see that the Lord said that the time of Satan is limited. The day will certainly come when he will be judged. The judgment will be an eternal judgment that will last forever. Satan will not escape. Many people are just like Satan. They think that they can get away with their evil actions. They think that they will not be judged. However, those who continue to follow Satan will also share in his judgment. God said that those who continue to rebel will be brought down to hell. This will happen to every person that does not turn from his or her rebellion and come to Christ in repentance and faith.

25. Read Isaiah 14:1-17 and write the question that people will ask as they see the way that the leader of Babylon is destroyed.

26. Explain what you learn about the judgment of Satan and all those who continue to follow him from these verses.

27. Explain why you think that God gave us a picture of the destruction of both the leaders of Babylon and the destruction of Satan.

Just as Satan will be judged in the future, in this passage we also see that God promised the rulers and the people of the city of Babylon that they would be judged. God said that they would receive the reward for their evil deeds. That reward would be judgment. God said that the children would be killed along with the parents because of the evil deeds of the parents. God also said that He would judge the city of Babylon. He said that He would completely destroy Babylon and its people. All that would be left in the city would be places for the wild animals to live. God gave His promise that He would completely destroy the city.

28. Read Isaiah 14:18-32 and write what other country is promised judgment in these verses.

29. Explain why it is important to see that God promised that the evil leaders of Babylon would be judged for their sinful deeds.

30. Explain why you think that God said that the destruction of Babylon would be so complete that only the wild animals would be left.

God promised that He would keep His Word and judge the nations exactly as He had said. We

have seen how the people of Assyria had come and done evil to the people of God. As a result, God said that He would tread them under His foot. The Assyrians had placed a heavy yoke on the nations of Israel and Judah. God said that He would break that yoke. The judgment of Assyria was also proof of the fact that the Lord would keep His promise to judge Babylon. In fact the judgment of Assyria is a sign to all of the nations of the earth that God will complete His purpose by judging all of the evil nations of the earth.

31. Read Isaiah 14:18-32 and write what king died the year that Isaiah received the message about the judgment of Philistia.

32. Explain why the judgment of the Assyrians was a sign to all of the nations of the earth that God will complete His purpose by judging the evil nations.

33. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord is able to break any yoke of bondage and set those who are held by that bondage free.

During the time that Ahaz was the king of Judah; the Philistines came to fight against Judah. The Philistines had won several victories and now they were happy to hear that Ahaz had died because they thought that this would make it possible for them to win more victories. However, God said that one would come from the family of Ahaz that would have victory over the Philistines. This happened under King Hezekiah. God also told Judah to send the Philistine messengers home to Philistia with the message that God would protect His people because they had placed their trust in Him. This should also be our answer when the devil tries to discourage us. We know that the Lord will take care of us and protect us.

34. Read Isaiah 14:18-32 and write to what kind of a serpent the Lord compared the one that would come from the family of Ahaz to defeat the Philistines.

35. Explain why the Lord promised to protect the people of Judah from the Philistines when they came against Judah.

36. Explain what it means to you in your life to know that the Lord will take care of you regardless of what evil men may try to do to you.

Chapter fifteen tells us about the judgment that the Lord promised to the nation of Moab. Here we see that God predicted the destruction of several cities in the land of Moab. We read that these cities would be laid waste and brought to silence. Here we see a picture of complete destruction. The cities would be so completely destroyed that there would be complete silence. Nothing would be left to make any noise. We read that there would be great sorrow and weeping in the other cities. This sorrow would be due to the greatness of the judgment of the cities of Moab. God brought this judgment on these cities exactly as He had promised.

37. Read Isaiah 15:1-9 and write how Isaiah felt when he heard about the great judgment that the Lord would bring on Moab.

38. Explain why the fact that there would be complete silence in the cities of Moab meant that there would be no people left in those cities.

39. Explain why you think that God warned Moab and these other nations that judgment would come before He brought that judgment upon them.

Here we see a real picture of the fact that Isaiah had a great concern for others. Even though Moab had been an enemy of Israel many times, Isaiah still had a concern in his heart for the people of Moab. This is an important lesson for us. Even though people may hate us and even try to make us suffer, we should still be concerned about them and their spiritual condition. We should pray for them and share the Gospel with them. These people are sinners and need to hear about Christ. If we will let the love of Christ take control of our lives, some of those who hate us will also become Christians. We also see one other picture of the terribleness of the judgment of Moab.

40. Read Isaiah 15:1-9 and write what God said would happen to the water of Dimon.

41. Explain why it is important for every person that is controlled by the love of Christ to be concerned about the spiritual condition of even those who are enemies.

42. Explain why you think that Isaiah still had a great concern for the people of Moab even though the nation of Moab had been an enemy to Israel.

Reread Isaiah 13:1-15:9 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 7
Isaiah 16:1-19:25

Today we will be continuing our study of the judgment of the nations. In our last lesson we learned a little about the judgment of the nation of Moab. Today we will learn more about the judgment that the Lord promised to bring on the nation of Moab. We will also learn about the judgments that the Lord promised to bring on the nations of Syria, Ethiopia and Egypt. Each of these nations had also made the people of God suffer at some time during the history of the nation of Israel. We are reminded again that the Lord does not forget the people that He has chosen. He will punish the nations that made His people suffer. This should be a real warning to the nations that are against the Jews and are fighting against the Jews in our time.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God said that He would judge the nation of Moab.
- Explain what God said would happen to Syria and Ephraim.
- Explain why God said that Ethiopia would be judged.
- Explain why God said that He would judge the nation of Egypt.

In our last lesson, we learned about the promise of God that the cities of the nation of Moab would be destroyed. Today we will learn what God told the Jews about the way that they were to act toward the people of Moab when that nation was judged. The Jews were told that they were to show kindness and mercy to the people that escaped from Moab when that nation was judged. Here we learn an important lesson. When other people suffer because of their sin, we should not point at them and say that they are getting what they deserve. Instead we should show Christian love and kindness to them. In this way they may realize their need to place their trust in Christ.

1. Read Isaiah 16:1-14 and write what sin of Moab is mentioned several times in this chapter.
2. Explain why the Lord told the Jews to show kindness to the people that escaped from Moab when the nation was judged.
3. Explain why you think that it is also important for us as Christians to show love and kindness to any people that are suffering.

Here we see again that one sin that causes many people to fall is pride. Pride makes people think about themselves and their desires. When our thoughts are about ourselves, we will begin doing all of the things that we do to satisfy self. Because of this great pride in the people of Moab, God said that the nation of Moab must be judged. God said that there would be no one left to care for the fields of Moab. Most of the people of the land of Moab were either killed or taken away to other countries when Moab was destroyed. As a result, there was no more joy or gladness in the land of Moab. Instead there was only sorrow in that land.

4. Read Isaiah 16:1-14 and write where the people God said that the people of Moab would come to pray when they were judged.
5. Explain why pride is the sin that causes so many people to focus on doing things that satisfy self even when it hurts other people.
6. Explain why you think that God said that most of the people of Moab would be killed or taken as captives because of their pride.

Here we see a real picture of the terrible condition of people and nations when they do not have their trust in Christ. When problems come into their lives, they have no one to help them. They pray to gods that cannot hear or answer. As a result, their prayers are not answered. Today many people are turning to leaders that get their power from Satan or to other evil spirits to try

and get help in their problems. This only leads people further and further from the help that only the Lord can give. As a result, such people have no one to help them in their times of trouble.

7. Read Isaiah 16:1-14 and write how soon God said that the country of Moab would be judged.

8. Explain how you can help people that are not Christians realize that Christ is the only One who can really help them.

9. Explain why you think that many people turn to gods that cannot hear or answer their prayers.

Damascus was the capital of the nation of Syria. As we come to chapter seventeen, we see that God began to speak about the judgment that would come on the nations of Syria and Ephraim. God said that the time for the judgment of these countries had come. Instead of lands of riches and plenty, God said that these nations would become very lean. Here we see again a picture of the judgment that God brings on the people of these nations. God said that very few people would be left in the land. The few people that were left would be like a few grapes or olives that people miss when they are harvesting a crop. Most of the people would be destroyed or taken away. That is why there would be few people left in the land.

10. Read Isaiah 17:1-14 and write what God said that men would do when they looked to God in that day.

11. Explain why God said that there would be few people left in the lands of Syria and Ephraim.

12. Explain why you think that God said that the people that were left in the land would be like a few grapes or olives that are missed by a harvester.

Here we see another prophecy that was fulfilled in the time of Isaiah that will be fulfilled in a much greater way in the future. A few of the small group of people that were left in the land of Israel did worship God with the people of Judah. However, in the future we will see the great completion of this promise. In Romans 11 God gives the promise that one day the entire nation of Israel will return to the Lord and begin to worship Him. In that day the people will not serve idols any more. That day is still future. We see that Israel has suffered many great judgments because they have not yet turned back to the Lord and experienced this blessing.

13. Read Isaiah 17:1-14 and write how God said that the nations would come against the nations of Syria and Israel.

14. Explain why God promises that there will come a day when the Jews as a whole will turn back to the Lord.

15. Explain why you think that it is important to understand that the Lord is anxious to show kindness to Israel when the people turn back to Him.

Here we see a real picture of the suddenness of the judgment that the Lord promised would come on the nations of Syria and Israel. That judgment would come like a flood of water. However, we also read that God promised to punish the enemy that brought this great destruction. The punishment of the nation of Assyria later happened exactly as it is described here. One night the Assyrians were a great and powerful nation. The next morning there had been a great change in the Assyrians. During that one night God killed 185,000 soldiers of the Assyrian army.

16. Read Isaiah 17:1-14 and write how far God said this nation would flee when He rebuked them.

17. Explain what you learn from the promise that God gave about the fact that Syria and Israel would be judged.

18. Explain why you think that God promised to punish the enemy after they had judged Syria and Israel.

Ethiopia is the next country upon which the Lord promised to bring judgment. For a time the nation of Ethiopia was a very powerful country. However, God said that they would also be judged. God said that He would cut off the nation of Ethiopia just like a man cuts off the branches of a tree. Then the people would be left for the birds of the mountains and the animals to eat. The birds and the animals would eat the dead bodies of these people after they were judged. Here again we see a picture of great destruction that would happen when the Lord brought judgment.

19. Read Isaiah 18:1-9 and write what God said that the people of Ethiopia will bring to the Lord in that time when they finally turn to the Lord.

20. Explain why God said that the birds and the animals would eat the bodies of the people of Ethiopia.

21. Explain why you think that God said that He would cut off the nation of Ethiopia like a man cuts a branch off of a tree.

Although the Lord said that it would be necessary for Him to judge the people of Ethiopia for their sin, God said that there would come a day when the people of Ethiopia would turn to the Lord. Here we see an important lesson and a wonderful promise. It does not matter how sinful a person or a group of people may have been in the past. If the people of that nation will turn to the Lord in repentance and faith, He will forgive their sins. He will make all of the people that repent right with God. Even though people may have been a long way from the Lord in the past, God is still ready and anxious to forgive their sins and give them eternal life.

22. Read Isaiah 18:1-19:1 and write what country in addition to Ethiopia is promised judgment in these verses.

23. Explain why the Lord is always ready to forgive any nation or group of people that will turn from their sin and turn to Him.

24. Explain why you think that God is ready and anxious to forgive any people that will turn to Him in repentance and faith.

As we come to the judgment of Egypt, we see God says that the entire nation of Egypt would fight against itself. Brothers would fight against each other. Neighbors would be fighting with each other. Cities would be fighting against one another. When the people saw all of this fighting, they would ask idols, medicine men, fortune tellers and other demon controlled leaders for help. Here we see a real picture of what is happening in our world today. Many people are turning to old religions. Others are turning to fortune tellers, astrologers, and others who work under the control of demons (evil spirits)

25. Read Isaiah 19:1-15 and write what kind of a king the Lord said would rule over the nation of Egypt.

26. Explain why many people begin to fight against one another instead of helping one another in families, neighborhoods and cities.

27. Explain why you think that many people are turning to leaders that depend on demons today.

This worship of evil spirits was one of the reasons that God said that He was going to judge Egypt. The people of Egypt had completely rejected God and were worshiping idols and evil spirits. When Joseph was a leader in Egypt, the people must have heard about the true and living God. However, they refused to follow the Lord. Here God said that He would judge them by allowing a cruel king from another country to punish them. God also said that He would judge them by not giving them the rain. This would prevent the river from going over its banks and watering the land. As a result, the crops of Egypt would not grow. Instead everything would become dry and die.

28. Read Isaiah 19:1-15 and write what the fishermen would do when this happened in the land of Egypt.

29. Explain why the people of Egypt refused to follow the Lord even though they had heard and

seen what God had done in Egypt in the past.

30. Explain why you think that there are many groups of people on the earth that worship evil spirits.

Here we see that when God stopped the rain that the people that made their living by fishing would be able to catch no fish because of the lack of water in the river. Those who made their living in the fields would have no crops. The leaders would not be able to help. Instead the leaders had become fools. Here is a real warning to leaders that think that they can lead a country their own way without asking the Lord for help and guidance. They will only lead their country the wrong way. The same is true for church leaders who have not placed their trust in Christ. Today there are many churches that are being led the wrong way because their leaders do not follow Christ.

31. Read Isaiah 19:1-15 and write what had happened to the princes of Zoan.

32. Explain why God said that the leaders would not be able to help the people because they had become fools.

33. Explain why you think that when a person totally leaves the Lord out of his thinking that the person will act like a fool.

We go on to see that one day the Lord is going to cause a great change in the hearts of the people that remain in the lands of Egypt and Assyria. Today the people of these countries still have a great hate for God and His people, the Jews. Their goal is to destroy the Jews. However, God is going to cause a great change in the hearts of these people. The day will come when the people of Egypt and Assyria will have a great fear and respect for the people of Israel. We also read that five of the cities of Egypt will speak the language of Canaan and worship the Lord. Here we see another promise that will be completed twice. Many Jews did move to Egypt where they spoke the language of Canaan and worshiped the Lord. However, this promise will be completely fulfilled during the time that Christ rules on the earth.

34. Read Isaiah 19:16-25 and write what will be in the middle of the land of Egypt in that day.

35. Explain why the Lord will one day change the hearts of the people of Assyria and Egypt so that they will want to serve the Lord.

36. Explain why you think that the Lord can even change the hearts of nations that have rejected Him for many years.

As we study these verses, we see why this passage is speaking of the future. We said that the Jews who lived in Egypt did worship God. However, we read here that the Egyptians will also know and worship the Lord in that day. We know that there have been times when small groups of Egyptians have worshiped the Lord. However, there has never been a time when a large number of Egyptians from throughout the entire nation have worshiped God. This will only happen when Christ rules on the earth. This is one reason we know that this promise speaks of the future.

37. Read Isaiah 19:16-25 and write what the Lord promises to do to the nation of Egypt when the people worship Him.

38. Explain what these verses teach about what will happen in the land of Egypt when Christ rules on the earth.

39. Explain why you think that the Egyptians will finally realize that the Lord is the One that they should serve.

Just as the Lord promised that He would judge Egypt because of its sin, God will also heal the land and people of Egypt when Egypt returns to Him. In that day we see that another thing will happen that has not yet happened. We read that both the Egyptians and the Assyrians will serve the nation of Israel and bring blessing to Israel. There will be a highway leading to Israel from Egypt and also from Assyria. God said that the people of these two places would be blessed because they are the work of His hands. Although these two nations are blessed, God gives an

even greater privilege to the nation of Israel.

40. Read Isaiah 19:16-265 and write what God called Israel.

41. Explain why God said that both Assyria and Egypt will want to serve the nation of Israel and bring blessing to the nation.

42. Explain why you think that God wants to bring blessing to everyone that will turn to Him in repentance and faith.

Reread Isaiah 16:1-19:25 and write down the three most important lessons that you learn from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 8
Isaiah 20:1-23:18

In our last lesson we studied about the judgment that the Lord promised to bring on the nations of Egypt and Ethiopia. As we begin our lesson today, we see that this judgment of these nations began very soon after Isaiah had said that it would happen. We will also be learning about the judgment of several other nations. As we see the judgments of these nations, we are reminded again of the danger of continuing to live in sin. Unconfessed sin will always bring judgment. This judgment may be on individuals or it may be on an entire nation. As we study these chapters, we will see that the Lord speaks about the judgment of nations.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how Isaiah became an example of the judgment of Egypt and Ethiopia.
- Explain why the Lord caused the nation of Babylon to fall.
- Explain what God said about judgment in Jerusalem, the city of David.
- Explain what we learn about the judgment of Tyre.

The Lord used Isaiah to give an example of the judgment that would soon come on the nations of Egypt and Ethiopia. Isaiah had been wearing sackcloth to show his sorrow. In that day when people wore sackcloth, it was always a sign of great sorrow and sadness. Isaiah had been wearing sackcloth in order to show his sorrow for the sins of the people of Israel and Judah. Now we read that God told Isaiah to take off his clothes of sackcloth and his shoes. All of the clothing that he wore for the next three years was the clothing of a slave. God said that the reason that He told Isaiah to wear the clothing of a slave was to provide a picture of the coming judgment of Egypt and Ethiopia.

1. Read Isaiah 20:1-6 and write what king made prisoners of the Egyptians and the Ethiopians.
2. Explain why Isaiah had been wearing sackcloth to show his sorrow for the sins of the people of Israel and Judah.
3. Explain why you think that God told Isaiah to begin wearing the clothing of a slave to provide a picture of the coming judgment of Egypt and Ethiopia.

Here we see that the Lord promised that the king of Assyria would make slaves of the people of Egypt and Ethiopia. It would not matter whether those people were young or old. They would all become slaves of the Assyrians. This judgment would make the people both afraid and ashamed. Egypt had thought that it was a powerful nation and had boasted of its strength. Now God said that its strength would be brought to nothing. This was also a warning to the people of Judah because they trusted the Egyptians to protect them from the Assyrians. Here we are given a real warning about the danger of placing our trust in people instead of placing our trust in the Lord. People will always fail us but the Lord will never fail us.

4. Read Isaiah 20:1-6 and write the question that the people asked when they realized that Egypt would not protect them from the Assyrians.
5. Explain why God is able to bring the strength of even the most powerful nation down to nothing.
6. Explain why you realize that it is important to know that the Lord will never fail us even though many people may fail us.

We have already studied about the promise that the Lord had given about the coming judgment of Babylon. Now we are going to learn who God said that He would use to bring this judgment to the city of Babylon. We read that the Lord is the One who told Elam (Persia) and Media to go against Babylon. Here we are introduced to the great Medo-Persian kingdom. It was this

empire that destroyed Babylon. However, the most important thing to notice here is the fact that it was God that told the Medes and the Persians to go and fight against Babylon. The Medes and the Persians went against Babylon because they wanted to capture the countries that were controlled by Babylon. They did not realize that they were completing the plan of God by judging Babylon. We see though that God works out all things according to His plan.

7. Read Isaiah 21:1-17 and write what God told Isaiah to do.

8. Explain why the Lord said that He would use the Medo-Persian Empire to destroy the city of Babylon.

9. Explain why you realize that God can even guide evil nations to carry out His plan to bring judgment on other sinful nations.

The Babylonians were very proud and thought that no one would ever be able to conquer them. They were having a great feast on the very night when the Medes and the Persians came in and conquered the city. Now we read that Isaiah was told to set up a watchman to tell what he saw. The watchman said that he saw some messengers coming. They came with the message that the great city of Babylon had fallen and that her idols had been broken. Here we see a real warning to those who place their trust in something besides the Lord. The things that people turn to for protection will always fail them when the Lord brings judgment against them.

10. Read Isaiah 21:1-17 and write what nation God mentioned that He would judge after He talked about the judgment of Babylon.

11. Explain what you learn from this passage about the way that the Lord said that He would judge Babylon.

12. Explain why you think that the Lord brought such great judgment on the city of Babylon that it was never rebuilt.

The chapter also tells us about the judgment that the Lord brought on the nations of Seir (Edom) and Arabia. Isaiah began this prophecy by speaking of both of the morning and also of the night. Here we see that Isaiah was looking forward to the morning when Israel would be free. However, that would also be a night of judgment for the nation of Edom. The Lord also promised that Arabia would be judged. These two nations had come to fight against the city of Jerusalem. As a result, God said that most of their soldiers (archers) would be killed. The people could be sure that this would happen because God had spoken it. God will always keep His word.

13. Read Isaiah 21:1-17 and write how quickly the Lord said that this judgment would come on those two nations.

14. Explain why God said that it would be like the morning for Israel but like the night for Edom.

15. Explain why you realize that when the Lord has given His word that we know what He has promised will certainly happen.

We also read another warning that the Lord gave to the city of Jerusalem about the judgment that would come upon them. The people of Jerusalem were sure that they would not be destroyed. Even though the people did not worship the Lord, they thought that God would protect them. God said that the people of Jerusalem were only concerned about satisfying themselves and having a good time. This would make it easy for the enemy to destroy the city because the people would not even realize that they were in danger until it was too late. Here we see a real picture of people today. They do not realize their great danger because of their sin.

16. Read Isaiah 22:1-14 and write what Isaiah said that he would do as he saw this warning of coming judgment.

17. Explain why many people think that God will protect them even though they do not worship and serve Him.

18. Explain why you think that God told the people of Jerusalem that it would be easy for an

enemy to destroy them.

Here we see a real picture of the concern of Isaiah for his people. He knew that the people of Judah and Jerusalem deserved to be judged. He knew that they had done many evil things. However, Isaiah still had such a great concern for his people that he really cried out to the Lord for his people. He also spoke to the people and warned them of their coming judgment. Today we need more Christians who have the same concern that Isaiah had for his people. We need to have a greater concern for people as we realize that they will soon be judged for their sins.

19. Read Isaiah 22:1-14 and write to whom Isaiah said that the people of Jerusalem had not looked.

20. Explain why it was painful for Isaiah to see the Jews judged even though Isaiah knew that they needed to be judged.

21. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the concern that Isaiah had for his people.

We see that Jerusalem was depending on its own armies to protect the city from any enemies. The people had not looked to the Lord for help. They thought that their own plans and efforts were all that they needed for protection. Instead of turning to the Lord and following Him, the people chose to become even more involved in satisfying themselves. All that the people thought about was their pleasure that day. They did not prepare for future judgment. God promised that He would judge the people because they refused to turn from their sins. Today many people are just like the people of Jerusalem and do not prepare for the future.

22. Read Isaiah 22:1-14 and write what the people said that they planned to do before they died.

23. Explain why many people spend their lives seeking pleasure to satisfy themselves instead of seeking the Lord.

24. Explain why you think that many people live as those they think that there will never be a future judgment.

Many people are like the people of Jerusalem and only live for the day. We read what happens when people make their own plans instead of doing the will of the Lord for their lives. A man named Shebna had become a very important person in the city of Jerusalem. He had come to the city of Jerusalem from a foreign country. In order to show his importance, Shebna had built a beautiful cave in the side of a great rock so that he and his family could be buried there. This was the thing that men that wanted to be important did to show their importance in that day. However, the Lord had other plans for Shebna.

25. Read Isaiah 22:15-25 and write what the Lord said He would do to Shebna so that he could not be buried in his tomb.

26. Explain why Shebna wanted to show his importance by making his plans for burial in the city of Jerusalem.

27. Explain why you think that many people look for ways to try and show others that they are people of importance.

Here we are reminded that the Lord is the One that controls all things. If we rebel against the plan of the Lord, we will be judged. We will not escape. God said that He would toss Shebna into a foreign country like a man throws a ball. There Shebna would die in shame. He would not be buried in his fancy grave in the city of Jerusalem. Here we have a real warning to all those who make their own plans instead of following the plan that God has for their lives. God has a wonderful plan for your life if you will let Him show you His plan instead of following your own way.

28. Read Isaiah 22:15-25 and write what God said that He would lay on the shoulder of Eliakim.

29. Explain what you learn from these verses about the importance of following the plan of the Lord instead of trying to follow your own plans.

30. Explain why you think that God said that the plans that had been made by Shebna would not be carried out as he planned.

God also said that Eliakim would take the place of Shebna. We see that Eliakim was a man that had a real trust in the Lord. As a result, God said that He would give Eliakim clothing and strength. Because Eliakim had his trust in the Lord, God said that He would make Eliakim a real leader among his people. God said that He would lay the key of the house of David on the shoulder of Eliakim. If you want to be a real leader among your people so that you can lead them to serve the Lord, you must also have a real trust in the Lord instead of your own strength. You must believe the promises of the Lord and know that He will do exactly as He has promised.

31. Read Isaiah 22:15-25 and write how God said that He would fasten Eliakim.

32. Explain why the Lord promised that He would make Eliakim a great leader of the people of Judah.

33. Explain why you think that a person will only be an effective leader when that person is looking to the Lord for guidance.

Here we see that God promised Eliakim complete strength as long as he continued to trust the promises of God. Then God went on to warn of the coming judgment of Tyre. Tyre was a very powerful city at the edge of the Mediterranean Sea. It sent its ships to many parts of the world. These ships would return to Tyre and Sidon with great riches. Here God said that the power and riches of Tyre would bring judgment upon the people because they trusted their riches instead of trusting in the Lord. Here we see a real picture of people today. Many people today trust their riches to take care of them. This has caused them to become proud.

34. Read Isaiah 23:1-18 and write what God said that He had purposed to do to the pride of Tyre.

35. Explain why God warned that Tyre could not trust in their great riches to protect them from other nations.

36. Explain why you think that many people that have great riches become proud because of the riches that they have.

It was pride that first caused Satan to rebel against God. Pride has been one of the things that has caused people to rebel against the Lord throughout history. God said that it is His purpose to destroy the pride of evil men and evil nations. No person or nation that is proud will escape the judgment of the Lord. Today people need to be warned that their evil actions and pride will bring the judgment of the Lord upon them. They will not escape in that day when the Lord chooses to judge that pride. All those controlled by pride will be judged just as Tyre was judged.

37. Read Isaiah 23:1-18 and write why God told the ships of Tyre to howl.

38. Explain what you learn about the dangers of pride for both nations and individuals from these verses.

39. Explain why you think that it is important to warn the people that you lead about the dangers of pride.

God said that He would completely destroy the city of Tyre because of the sin and pride of the people of Tyre. However, God then gave a wonderful promise to the city of Tyre. God promised that the day would come in the future when He would again bring blessing to the city of Tyre. The ships from Tyre would again travel to many cities of the world. Instead of keeping their riches to themselves, the people would give the riches to the Lord. God said that the money that Tyre gave would be used to provide food and clothing for the people of the Lord.

40. Read Isaiah 23:1-18 and write what the merchandise and hire of Tyre will be in that day when they serve the Lord.

41. Explain why God warned that even though Tyre was completely destroyed that He would one day restore and bless the city of Tyre.

42. Explain why it important to realize that God can restore any people or nation when the people turn to the Lord for salvation.

Read Isaiah 20:1-23:18 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 9
Isaiah 24:1-25:12

In this lesson and the next lesson we will be learning more about some of the things that will be happening in the future. First we will learn about the judgment of Israel during the time of the tribulation. This will be a time of great suffering for the Jews. Many of the Jews that are alive in that day will be killed. Then God will judge the nations that have caused the Jews to suffer. When God has completed this terrible judgment of the nations, then Christ will come to rule on the earth for one thousand years. We will learn about some of the wonderful things that will happen on the earth during the time that Christ is the ruler of the world.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what will happen to the Jews during the tribulation.
- Explain what will happen to the other nations during the tribulation
- Explain what changes Christ will make on the earth when He rules.

The destruction of Judah by Babylon gives us a little picture of the terrible judgment that will come on the nation of Israel during the period of the tribulation. The tribulation will be a time of great suffering for the nation of Israel as well as throughout the world. Many people throughout the world will be killed during those seven years. The only people that will be alive when Christ begins to rule on the earth at the end of the tribulation will be the people that placed their trust in Christ during the tribulation. The Jews will receive great persecution during those seven years. No person will be able to avoid that judgment whether the person is rich or poor. It will not matter whether a person is a leader or a follower. All of the Jews will be persecuted.

1. Read Isaiah 24:1-13 and write what will happen to the land of Israel during the time of the tribulation.
2. Explain why the period of the tribulation will be a very difficult time for the Jews that are alive during that time.
3. Explain why you think that God will judge all of the people that make the Jews suffer during the tribulation.

Here we see a little picture of the great judgment that will come on the people of Israel during the time of the tribulation. We see that the land will be totally emptied and spoiled. There will be nothing left. This will be a terrible judgment that will completely destroy everything. This judgment will be necessary because proud people have rebelled against the Lord and refused to follow Him. They have broken the law of God. They have tried to change His law by making their own rules. As we look around us, we can see that this is exactly what many people are doing today. We are living very close to the day when the Lord will bring this terrible judgment on the earth.

4. Read Isaiah 24:1-13 and write how many people will be left on the earth by the end of the tribulation.
5. Explain why it is necessary for the Lord to bring a great judgment to judge the people that are controlled by pride.
6. Explain why you think that people have tried to reject the commandments of the Lord and make their own rules instead.

Here we see that the time of the tribulation will be the greatest judgment on the earth since the time of Noah. In the time of Noah only eight people were left alive on the earth. This chapter tells us that by the end of the tribulation there will be only a few people that will be left alive on the earth. The rest of the people will be destroyed. There will be no joy in the life of anyone.

Instead there will only be sorrow. Even those who try to drink will find that their drink is bitter. Drink will not help people to forget their sorrow for even a little while in that day.

7. Read Isaiah 24:1-13 and write what will happen to the city of Jerusalem during the time of the tribulation.

8. Explain why the tribulation will be the greatest judgment of the earth since the time of Noah.

9. Explain why you think that drink will not help the people to forget their sorrow in the time of the tribulation.

When Babylon destroyed the city of Jerusalem, they completely destroyed the city. Nothing was left of the city. The city was left empty just like a grape vine that someone had completely emptied after another person had harvested the grapes. This is a real picture of the terrible judgment that will happen to Jerusalem during the time of the tribulation. That judgment will be so great that it will be even worse than the original judgment of Jerusalem when the city was completely destroyed by the Babylonians when they originally destroyed the city.

10. Read Isaiah 24:1-13 and write how the Lord compares the judgment of the city of Jerusalem to an olive tree.

11. Explain what you learn from this chapter about the judgment of the city of Jerusalem during the time of the tribulation.

12. Explain why you think that the Lord says that the judgment of Jerusalem will be worse than the judgment that Babylon caused to Jerusalem.

Although God will bring great judgment on the earth during the time of the tribulation, God will preserve a small group of people and keep them alive because they are faithful to the Lord and follow His Word. Throughout history there has always been a small group that has been faithful to God. This will happen again during the time of the tribulation. This group will be filled with joy as they speak praises to God. They will be filled with joy even though they have suffered many times during the tribulation. Today we also need to be filled with joy regardless of what is happening around us. We experience that joy when our hearts are in a right relationship with the Lord. As we are full of joy, we will be able to speak boldly for the Lord.

13. Read Isaiah 24:14-23 and write how far the songs of this small group will reach on the earth.

14. Explain why the Lord will preserve a small group of people and keep them alive even during the tribulation.

15. Explain why you think that people can be filled with joy even during times of great suffering.

We also read about the judgment of the nations during the time of the tribulation. People will try to escape the judgment of the Lord. However, they will meet judgment whatever direction they turn. They will not be able to escape. When this judgment comes, people will be filled with fear. Because of this fear, people will try to run and escape. This will only cause people to fall into pits or get caught in snares. They will finally realize that there is no escape from the judgment of God. We also see one reason why these people will be filled with fear.

16. Read Isaiah 24:14-23 and write what God says will happen to the foundation of the earth in that day.

17. Explain why the people of the nations will be filled with fear when they see the judgment that the Lord brings on them.

18. Explain why you think that many people will try to run and escape the judgment of the Lord.

One of the things that brings great fear to the lives of most people is a strong earthquake. People do not know how to escape. Here we read that the very foundations of the earth will shake so this will be a very great earthquake this will cause this great fear in people. The earthquake will be so great that the earth will shake and reel back and forth like a person that is

- very drunk. People will be filled with fear when they feel this earthquake because there is no way to control the earthquake and no way to escape from this earthquake as it shakes the earth.
19. Read Isaiah 24:14-23 and write what will happen to the moon and the sun during this time.
 20. Explain why this particular earthquake will cause people everywhere to be filled with a great fear.
 21. Explain why you think that the earthquake that is promised here will make every former earthquake look small.

We also read that the Lord will punish the proud and the kings of the earth because of their sin. The Lord will gather the kings and the proud together for judgment. None will be able to escape this judgment of the Lord. The people will be in great pain and suffering as they wait for the final judgment. There will be great judgments during the tribulation but the final judgment will be even worse. When the final judgment comes for all unbelievers, they will be sent to the lake of fire and brimstone where they will burn forever. However, before that final judgment, Christ will rule on the earth for a thousand years.

22. Read Isaiah 24:14-23 and write where Christ will rule when He rules on this earth.
23. Explain why the judgments on the earth will seem small compared to the final judgment of unbelievers.
24. Explain why you think that the Lord will gather all of the proud and all of the kings of the earth together for judgment.

As we come to chapter twenty-five, we read many things about the time when Christ will rule on the earth. As we begin this chapter, we see that we must recognize that Christ is our God. He is the One that has done all things. He is the One to whom we give praise. The Lord has done many wonderful things. In fact the things that God has done are so wonderful that we cannot describe them. We do not need to worry that Christ will trick us with false teaching as many false teachers try to do. Instead we know that Christ does all things the right way. As a result, we should sing praises to Him.

25. Read Isaiah 25:1-12 and write what Christ has done for the poor.
26. Explain why it is important for each person to realize that Christ is God and that He has done great things.
27. Explain why you realize that Christ has done so many wonderful things that it is impossible to describe them.

The Lord is able to destroy any evil city. It does not matter how strong that city is. God is still able to destroy it. As a result, the only people that are really strong are those people that have placed their trust in Christ and are depending on Him for His strength. This is the reason why we read that Christ is a strength to the poor and needy. When people realize that they have no strength in themselves, then they are ready to turn to Christ and ask Him to give them His strength. When people place their trust in Christ, He also promises that He will be their protection from the storms and other things that are around them.

28. Read Isaiah 25:1-12 and write what the strong people will do when Christ returns to rule the earth.
29. Explain why the poor and the needy can realize that they can turn to the Lord for strength.
30. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that Christ is your strength and your protection.

When Christ returns from heaven to rule on the earth, it will be a time of great joy and rejoicing. The Lord will make a great feast for all those who have placed their trust in Him. These will be the only people that will be alive when Christ begins His kingdom. Christ will also take away the veil or covering that has been spread over the nations. Today the eyes of most people are blind to the Word of God. They can read the Bible but they cannot understand it. It is just like there is a great covering over their eyes. However, this covering is removed when people place their trust in Christ. It will be removed for all the people when Christ comes

to rule on the earth. Then all people will be able to understand because Christ will give them understanding. As Christians, we also have this promise today. Christ promises that He will give all Christians understanding of the Word of God if we will ask Him to give us understanding.

31. Read Isaiah 25:1-12 and write what will happen to death when Christ begins His rule.
32. Explain why many people cannot understand the Bible when they read the Bible today.
33. Explain why you think that the eyes of most people living today are blind to the Word of God.

During the time that Christ is the ruler of the earth, it will be very unusual for a person to die. Instead the people will be given long life. Of course, when we get to heaven, there will never be any more death at all. Sin is the thing that causes death. By His death on the cross and His resurrection, Christ defeated death and made it possible for all those who follow Him to have victory over death. In Christ, we have already been promised this victory over death. As a result, we do not need to be fearful or afraid of death any longer.

34. Read Isaiah 25:1-12 and write what Christ will do to the tears of men in the future.
35. Explain why Christ promises that the day will come when people do not need to fear death any longer.
36. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that Christ has promised you victory over death.

Here we see that the Lord is going to remove sadness. No longer will people be filled with sorrow. Instead people will be filled with joy. Today many people hate the chosen people of God and speak against the Jews. God chose the nation of Israel to receive His special blessing several thousand years ago. The Jews have been hated by many other nations ever since that time. However, when Christ comes to rule on the earth, the Jews will not be hated any more. We also see that all those who have placed their trust in Christ will be filled with joy. We can be filled with joy because we know that Christ has saved us and given us life.

37. Read Isaiah 25:1-12 and write what Christ will bring down in the lives of people when He comes to rule.
38. Explain what this chapter teaches us about the changes that will happen on the earth when Christ begins His rule.
39. Explain how you think the Jews will feel when they are no longer hated by the people of other nations.

We also read what will happen to the nations that do not place their trust in Christ. Those nations will be placed under the feet of Christ. They will become like a garbage dump. In that day those nations will be destroyed because of their pride. People that are proud act as though they think that no one can destroy them. However, Christ says that He will bring down the proud. When God begins to bring this judgment on the earth, no one will be able to stand against this judgment. He will destroy the forts and all other things in which people place their trust.

40. Read Isaiah 25:1-12 and write how low Christ will make the fortresses of the people that are proud.
41. Explain why pride is one of the things that the Lord has had to judge repeatedly throughout the history of the earth.
42. Explain why you think that the Lord will destroy all of the things in which people have placed their trust.

Reread Isaiah 24:1-25:12 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 10
Isaiah 26:1-28:29

In our last lesson we learned about the suffering and judgments of Israel and the nations during the time of the tribulation. We also learned about some of the blessings that will happen on the earth when Christ comes back to rule on the earth. Today we will be learning more about the wonderful blessings that the nation of Israel will receive when Christ returns to rule the earth. Then we will turn again to the message of judgment. In the past few lessons we have learned about the judgment of the nations. In the next few lessons we will learn more about the judgment of Ephraim (Israel) and Judah.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how Israel will worship the Lord when Christ rules.
- Explain what will happen to the land of Israel when Christ rules.
- Explain what God said about the judgment of Ephraim.
- Explain how the judgment of Ephraim should have been a warning to Judah.

When Christ comes to rule on the earth, He will give the people a song of joy. People will be filled with joy in that time because of the salvation that God has provided. We also see how to have peace both in that day and in our own day. Christ says that those who always keep their thoughts on Him will have perfect peace because they have placed their trust in Him. This is a wonderful promise both for today and for the future. If we keep our minds and thoughts on Christ, we will have inner peace. We will not need to be afraid of the things that are happening around us. We will know that Christ is in complete control of every one of those things because we trust in Him.

1. Read Isaiah 26:1-21 and write how long we are told to trust in the Lord.
2. Explain why the Lord says that those who will keep their thoughts on Him will experience perfect peace in their lives.
3. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to keep your thoughts focused on the Lord so that you can experience His peace.

We can trust in the Lord forever because we know that He will judge all evil people. In contrast, we also know that He will care for all of the people that have chosen to follow Him. We also see the way that the people of God are to worship Christ. This is true for us today as well as for the people that will be on the earth when Christ rules. We are to wait on the Lord. We should think of the Lord in the night. We are to learn from Him early in the morning. This is what people will be doing in the day when Christ rules on the earth. All of the people on the earth will learn what the Lord wants to teach them. They will learn how they should live when their hearts are right with the Lord.

4. Read Isaiah 26:1-21 and write who is the One that will obtain peace for us.
5. Explain why it is important to learn to think about the Lord both during the day and when people are awake at night.
6. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to learn to think and meditate on the Lord and His Word throughout the day and when you are awake at night.

Christ is able to obtain peace for any person because He is alive. That is why we can also experience peace. Many people are trusting in gods that are dead. Their gods cannot help them. Their gods cannot give them peace. Instead the people who put their trust in false gods live in fear. They do not know how they can find peace. When we became Christians, we received the peace that only the Lord can give. As a result, we do not need to be afraid any longer. In the day when Christ comes to rule on the earth, He will give peace to the nation of

Israel and bring the Jews back to their own land from all parts of the world.

7. Read Isaiah 26:1-21 and write when God said that the Jews would finally pray to Him and call upon Him.

8. Explain why people that place their trust in false gods live in fear in their lives and cannot experience peace.

9. Explain why it is important to you to know that you can experience peace in your life as you are led by the Lord.

Here we see that the people of the nation of Israel will have a time of great suffering and sorrow. God said that they would be in great pain for a long time. However, God has not forgotten His people. He promises that the dead shall live and the dead bodies shall arise. The Lord will also protect His people. All of the Jews that are killed during the tribulation because they serve God will be raised back to life at the end of the tribulation. They will join with those who will be protected by God during the tribulation. Then they will experience the rule of Christ on the earth. In that day Christ will also judge the sinful people of the earth who tried to destroy the Jews.

10. Read Isaiah 26:1-21 and write what God told the people to do when the people of the world come against them during the time of indignation.

11. Explain what God promises to do for the Jews that are killed during the time of the tribulation.

12. Explain why you think that God continually reminds the Jews that He will not forget them even though they will go through very difficult times.

We have seen that Christ will bring the Jews back to their land when He comes to rule on the earth. In addition to blessing His people, Christ will also bless the land that He has given to them. First, however, God will judge the people that made the Jews suffer. We also read about the way that the Lord will punish leviathan, the serpent. Several times throughout the Bible Satan is called a serpent (snake) because of the fact that he came as a snake to deceive Eve and entice her to sin. In addition to the fact that Satan will be bound while Christ rules on the earth, the book of Revelation also tells us that the beast and the false prophet will be cast into the lake of fire.

13. Read Isaiah 27:1-13 and write who the Lord says will keep and water the vineyard (grape field) of Israel in that day.

14. Explain why one of the names that the Lord uses for Satan is snake or serpent.

15. Explain why you think that God will cause Satan to be bound during the time that Christ rules on the earth for one thousand years.

God said that He will make the land of Israel a vineyard of red wine. This speaks of the fact that the vineyards of Israel will be filled with grapes and will have a wonderful harvest in that day. God said that He will also destroy the briars and thorns that are in the land. Then He will cause the entire land of Israel to have wonderful crops. There will be enough food from those crops that part of the food can be sent to many other countries in the world. Here we see that the land will be changed from an empty desert to a beautiful garden. This is beginning to happen in the land of Israel even today. However, this change will not be complete until Christ returns to rule on the earth. Truly this is a wonderful promise.

16. Read Isaiah 27:1-13 and write what God will cause the descendants of Jacob to do in that day.

17. Explain why God promises that He will change the land of Israel from a desert to a very fruitful land.

18. Explain why you think that God promises that Israel will become a very fruitful land with wonderful crops during the time that Christ rules on the earth.

The reason why those who come from Jacob will need to take root again in that day is also

given. Because of the sins of Judah and Israel, it was necessary for God to punish them. They were carried away as captives to the lands of the east. For over 2500 years God has left them in other nations to punish them for their sin. Their cities were destroyed. They became like dead branches in a tree that could be broken off easily by a woman. Here we see again another picture of the results of sin. However, God promises that the day is coming when He will forgive the sins of His people and restore them to their land.

19. Read Isaiah 27:1-13 and write where God promises that the people will worship the Lord in the day that He regathers them from the lands where they have been scattered.

20. Explain what you learn about the reasons why God promised both judgment and forgiveness in these verses.

21. Explain why you think that God describes the cities of Israel by saying that they are like dead branches in a tree.

In that day when Christ comes to rule on the earth, He will regather His people from all of the nations where they have been scattered. He will bring them back into their own land. God will also increase the size of their land so that the land of Israel will stretch from the Euphrates River to the river of Egypt. Then the people of Israel will be gathered together from all of the countries where they have been scattered throughout the more than 2500 years that they have been out of the land. In that day, the people will again all worship the Lord together.

22. Read Isaiah 27:1-13 and write where the people of Israel will worship the Lord in that day.

23. Explain why it is important that God is beginning to regather the people of Israel after they have been scattered for more than 2500 years.

24. Explain how you think that the people of Israel will feel when the Lord regathers them and brings them back into their own land.

After Isaiah had finished writing about this beautiful picture of the wonderful future of Israel, the Lord told him to begin to speak again about the judgment that would soon come. We have already studied about the judgment of the nations that surrounded the country of Israel. Now God told Isaiah to begin to speak about the judgment that would come to the nations of Ephraim and Judah. Ephraim was the northern half of the original country of Israel and was called Samaria or Israel as well as Ephraim. Judah was the southern half of the country and Jerusalem was its capital. God began by speaking of the coming judgment of Ephraim. God mentioned two of the things that were causing Him to bring judgment on Ephraim.

25. Read Isaiah 28:1-13 and write what group besides the proud is promised judgment in this chapter.

26. Explain why God took time to explain to the people of Israel and Judah the reasons why it was necessary for Him to judge them.

27. Explain why you think that the Lord also explains to us in His Word why it is necessary at times to bring judgment in our lives.

Here we see two sins that have caused many people and many nations to fail and fall. Pride causes people to think that they can do all things. As a result, they depend on their own strength and quickly fall. We also see how people fail when they are drunkards. Drinking causes people to lose their understanding. As a result they do not think about what things are right and what things are sin. Then the leaders cannot lead the people. At the same time the people cannot see and think clearly. They stumble and fall. They vomit and make a mess everywhere. As a result, they are not able to teach and help others.

28. Read Isaiah 28:1-13 and write how God said that He had to teach the people of Israel and Judah in order for them to understand.

29. Explain what these verses teach you about the danger of drinking.

30. Explain why you think that the sin that is most frequently mentioned by the Old Testament prophets is the sin of pride.

As Isaiah spoke again of the coming judgment of Ephraim and Judah, the people began to make

fun of Isaiah. They said that he was talking to them like they were little children instead of grown men. They felt that they were wise and understood more than a line at a time. Because the people thought that they were all right, God said that it would be necessary for Him to use a people of stammering lips to teach them. The Assyrians spoke a language that was similar to the language of the Jews. To the Jews, the Assyrian language sounded like someone who could not talk plainly. However, Assyria was the nation that the Lord was going to use to judge Ephraim. The Assyrians would also treat them like little children.

31. Read Isaiah 28:1-13 and write what would happen to Ephraim in addition to falling backward.

32. Explain why God warned the people of Israel and Judah that the people of Assyria would treat them like little children.

33. Explain why you think that God had to teach the people of Israel and Judah a line at a time in order for them to understand.

Isaiah said that the judgment of Ephraim should be a warning to Judah and the city of Jerusalem. The leaders of Jerusalem only made fun when they heard the warning about judgment. They did not believe the Word of God. Instead the Jews in Jerusalem chose to make a secret agreement with a foreign land. They thought that their secret agreement would protect them from their enemies. Here God warned them that their secret agreement would not help them. Instead the enemy would flow through the land like a flood. God would judge them because they chose to trust in the power of men instead of trusting in the power of the Lord.

34. Read Isaiah 28:14-29 and write what kind of a foundation God said that He would lay in Zion (Jerusalem).

35. Explain why God said that He would judge the people because they chose to trust another nation instead of placing their trust in Him.

36. Explain why you think that the people of Jerusalem only made fun when they heard the warning about coming judgment.

Here we see the kind of foundation that we must also have in our lives if we are going to have victory in our lives. Israel was depending upon its own plans. God said that those plans would only bring failure because they were built on the wrong foundation. Christ is the One that is the only true foundation. He will stand regardless of what happens. Christ was tested by the devil and had victory over him in every area where Satan tempted Him. Christ is the sure foundation and nothing can move Him. If we build our lives with Christ as our foundation, we will be strong because we have the strength of Christ in us.

37. Read Isaiah 28:14-29 and write who the Lord told the people of Judah to listen to.

38. Explain why it is very important for us in our lives to choose to have Christ as our sure foundation.

39. Explain why it is important to you to know that Christ is the sure foundation because He was able to withstand every temptation of the devil.

After Isaiah had warned the people of Judah of coming judgment unless they made the Lord their foundation, he warned the people not to make fun of God any longer. Instead Isaiah encouraged the people to listen to the Word of God. Isaiah told the people that if they would listen to the Lord that God would instruct them and teach them. Here we see that the Lord is anxious to instruct those who follow Him. He wants them to know those things that are right and know those things that are sin. God wants to help people understand how to live for Him in their lives.

40. Read Isaiah 28:14-29 and write what kind of counsel the Lord gives to those who seek His counsel.

41. Explain why an important part of the ministry of any spiritual leader is to teach the Word of God to the people that he leads.

42. Explain why it is important for you to help people learn to listen to the Word of God so that

the Lord can instruct and teach them.

Reread Isaiah 26:1-28:29 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 11
Isaiah 29:1-30:33

Today we will be learning more about the judgment that the Lord promised would come to Judah. The Lord gave the people of Judah a warning that judgment would come to them soon. Then God gave them the reasons why that judgment must come. Even though the Lord warned of coming judgment, He again promised future blessing. Many times in the book of Isaiah the warnings of judgment are followed by promises of future blessing when the people turn to the Lord. Judah was also warned not to trust the nation of Egypt for help. Instead the Lord encouraged them to trust in the Lord because He was the only One who could give them victory.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God said that He must judge Judah.
- Explain what the Lord promised Judah about future blessing.
- Explain why Judah was warned not to depend on Egypt for help.
- Explain why Judah was encouraged to trust in the Lord.

As we begin our study today, we learn a new name for the city of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is called Ariel. Ariel means “the hearth of God”. A hearth is in front of a fireplace. As a result, this new name was a message to the people of the city. The people of Jerusalem would soon feel the fires of judgment because they had failed to place their trust in the Lord. The people of Jerusalem did offer sacrifices to the Lord. However, we saw in the first chapter of Isaiah that the people did not worship God with their sacrifices. Instead they had an empty religion. God said that He would bring heaviness and sorrow to Jerusalem. He would fight against them. He would bring them down so that they were as low as the dust.

1. Read Isaiah 29:1-16 and write how low God said that their speech would be in that day.
2. Explain why God said that the people of Jerusalem would experience the fires of judgment on their city.
3. Explain why you think that God said that the people of Judah had an empty religion even though they did offer sacrifices.

God also warned that the judgment of Jerusalem would come suddenly. God said He would cause storms, an earthquake and a great fire to punish the city of Jerusalem. Then God said that the nations would also come against Jerusalem. Throughout the history of Jerusalem, many nations had come to fight against the city. Many of these nations have caused great destruction in Jerusalem. However, there will be a day in the future when many nations will again join together to come and fight against the city of Jerusalem. In that day we see that God will fight for Jerusalem and destroy the greatest army that the world has ever seen.

4. Read Isaiah 29:1-16 and write what God said that He would pour out on the people of Jerusalem.
5. Explain why God warned that judgment would come on the city of Jerusalem very suddenly.
6. Explain why you realize that God says there will be a future judgment of Jerusalem that will be worse than any previous judgment.

Because the people of Judah had refused over and over again to listen to the Word of God, God said that He would bring sleep and spiritual blindness upon the people. This blindness of the Jews has made it possible for the people who are not Jews to share in the blessings of the Lord. This blindness has kept the Jews from understanding the Word of God. The people claimed that they worshiped and served the Lord. They even knew how to say the right things when they spoke about God. However, even though the people said the right things about God, that

fact did not mean that they were following the Lord and serving Him.

7. Read Isaiah 29:1-16 and write what the hearts of the people were like in their attitude toward God.

8. Explain why God describes spiritual blindness by saying that it means that people will not understand the Word of God.

9. Explain why you think that there is much spiritual blindness in the lives of many people that claim to know God today.

These people thought that they could say the right things and be right before God even though they were secretly living in sin. They thought that no one could see their sin. Today we have many people that are just like the people of Judah. They are religious. They pretend to worship God. They go to church regularly. However, their hearts are far from God. They are walking a long way from the Lord. Just like the people of Judah, they are still spiritually blind. They cannot understand the things of the Lord. As a result, the day of judgment will soon come for them.

10. Read Isaiah 29:1-16 and write what God said would happen to the wisdom of the wise man.

11. Explain what you learn from this chapter about the judgment of people that are religious but do not serve the Lord.

12. Explain why you think that many people feel that they are right before God when they are secretly living in sin.

After God warned the people of coming judgment, He again spoke through Isaiah to give the people a promise of future blessing. Instead of being a dry desert, God said that the land would again become a fruitful field. God said that in that day He will open the ears of those who have refused to listen to the Word of God. He will open the eyes of those who have been spiritually blind. This promise has not yet been fulfilled. The Jews as a whole are still living in spiritual blindness and refuse to believe that Christ came from God to pay the penalty for their sins. They do not want to listen to what the Word of God says about Christ. However, the day will soon come when all of the Jews will turn to God and place their trust in Christ.

13. Read Isaiah 29:17-24 and write what will happen to the meek in that day.

14. Explain why most of the Jews that are living today are still living in spiritual blindness.

15. Explain why you think that God promises that the day will come when He will open the ears and the eyes of those who have been spiritually blind.

Here we see that the people will be filled with joy in that day when they finally place their trust in Christ. Christ will always bring joy to the life of any person that put his or her trust in Him because He replaces their fear with His love. People are no longer afraid of what will happen to them when they die. Instead they know that they can look forward to eternal life. Even the poor will rejoice because they will realize that Christ is the One that will complete all of the promises that are given to the nation of Israel in the Old Testament. Those who have caused Israel to be filled with fear will be brought to nothing. They will not be able to hurt the Jews any more.

16. Read Isaiah 29:17-24 and write what God says concerning the house of Jacob in these verses.

17. Explain why people begin to experience great joy in their lives as their fear is being replaced by the love of Christ.

18. Explain why you think that as Christians begin to grow in their understanding of the love of Christ that their lives will begin to be led by love instead of controlled by fear.

Instead of the house of Jacob continuing to turn against God, in that day the Jews will turn to the Lord and serve Him. They will no longer be ashamed. God will bless them with great blessings. By their lives, they will cause others to seek the Lord. They will fear and worship the Lord from their hearts. As a result, the Lord will open their understanding and they will be

able to understand the Word of God. They will be able to learn the things that God wants to teach them from His Word. Here we see a real picture of the complete change that will happen to the Jews when the Lord opens their eyes and gives them spiritual understanding.

19. Read Isaiah 29:17-24 and write what God says will happen to those who have erred in spirit.

20. Explain how the Lord changes the understanding of any people when those people place their trust in Christ.

21. Explain what changes have happened in your own life as you have grown in your understanding of the Word of God.

After describing this wonderful picture of the future and of what would happen in the future, God again began to warn the Jews not to put their trust in people. God said that the people of Judah were like rebellious children. They had asked for help. However, they asked for help from Egypt instead of the Lord. They were trusting in the strength of Egypt for their protection. God said that they would be sorry because they had trusted in Egypt. Egypt would not be able to help and protect them. Instead Egypt would only bring shame to the people of Judah. The same thing will happen to us if we place our trust in people instead of putting our trust in the Lord. People will always fail us because no person is perfect.

22. Read Isaiah 30:1-14 and write what God said about the strength of Egypt.

23. Explain why God warned the people of Judah not to place their trust in the strength of Egypt.

24. Explain why you think that God described the people of Judah by saying that they were like rebellious children.

The people of Judah had sent their riches to the nation of Egypt in order to get the people of Egypt to help them. God said that the people of Judah had only wasted their money. Egypt would not come to help them when they needed help. Instead Egypt would sit still. Then God turned from the failure of Egypt to provide help for Judah and began to speak of the rebellion of Judah against God. God said that the people were very rebellious. They always spoke lies. They would not listen to the law of God. They did not want the prophets to speak the truth to them. Instead they told the prophets what to say.

25. Read Isaiah 30:1-14 and write what the people of Judah were telling the prophets to speak to them.

26. Explain why people often waste their money when they trust in the plans of other people to help them get what they want.

27. Explain why you think that the people of Judah said that they did not want the prophets to speak the truth to them.

The people of Judah in that day give us another real picture of people today. Many people do not want to hear the truth. Instead they want to hear the things that sound good to them. They are very willing to be deceived if people will tell them what they want to hear. As a result, such people turn to false teachers and those who tell them lies. This has even happened in many churches. Many preachers no longer teach the Word of God because the people do not want to hear the truth. Instead these preachers tell the people what they want to hear.

28. Read Isaiah 30:1-14 and write to what the Lord compared the breaking of the nation of Judah.

29. Explain why many people would rather listen to false teachers instead of listening to those who speak the truth.

30. Explain why you think that many people are very willing to be deceived in order to hear what they want to hear instead of searching for the truth.

God went on to give the people of Judah a warning. God said that He would judge Judah just as a potter breaks a pot that is no good. At the same time, God also promised that Judah would be saved and would have rest if the people would return to the Lord. They would have

quietness and confidence because the Lord would be their strength. Because of the sin of Adam and Eve, all people quickly become controlled by fear in their lives. Today most people are filled with fear. They are always worrying about something. They cannot rest peacefully. All of these things happen to them because they are not depending on the Lord for strength.

31. Read Isaiah 30:15-33 and write how the people of Judah said that they would escape from an enemy.

32. Explain why God said that the people of Judah could have quietness and confidence if they would trust the Lord for their strength.

33. Explain why you think that one of the consequences of the sin of Adam is the fact that most people in the world are controlled by fear.

Even though God knew that Judah would fail and have to be judged, God promised the people that He will still remember them in the future and show kindness to them. God said that the day would come when He would bring them back to Jerusalem. He said that He would show His love and kindness when the people cried to Him from their hearts. God promised that He will teach them to walk in the right way in that day. Then they will be able to walk the way that God wants them to walk. They will not turn to the right or to the left. God said that they will destroy their idols and false gods. God said that they would throw their idols away just as a woman throws away an unclean piece of cloth.

34. Read Isaiah 30:15-33 and write what God promises that He will give to the people when they get rid of their false gods.

35. Explain why God promised to teach the people the right way to walk when the people cried out to Him from their hearts.

36. Explain why you think that the Lord is still looking for the opportunity to show His love and kindness when people cry to Him from their hearts.

God promises that He will give the Jews great blessing when they return to Him. God had warned the people that He would stop the rain if they turned away from Him and served other gods. Here God says that He will give them the rain again in the day that they turn back to Him. God says that in that day He will cause the land to produce a great harvest. The cattle will have much feed in the pastures. There will be more than enough food for all of the animals. Here we see a real promise of blessing that the people of Judah will experience when they choose to return to the Lord.

37. Read Isaiah 30:15-33 and write what the Lord promised to heal when the people choose to turn back to God.

38. Explain what the Lord teaches about the way that He will bless the land when the Jews turn to the Lord.

39. Explain why you think that God gave all of these wonderful promises to the people of Judah after warning them of coming judgment.

Even though the people of Judah were very sinful and refused to accept the promises of the Lord, God said that He would judge the Assyrians and keep the Assyrians from completely destroying Judah and Jerusalem. However, God said that the Assyrians would come in like a flood that would reach to the neck before the Assyrians were destroyed. When Assyria did come against Judah, Assyria destroyed much of the land of Judah and even surrounded the city of Jerusalem before God judged the Assyrians. Then God very quickly judged the Assyrians and killed 185,000 of their soldiers in just one night.

40. Read Isaiah 30:15-33 and write how God said that He would defeat and beat down the Assyrians.

41. Explain why God allowed the Assyrians to almost destroy Judah and Jerusalem before the Lord judged their army.

42. Explain why you think that God promised that He would judge the army of the Assyrians.

Reread Isaiah 29:1-30:33 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 12
Isaiah 31:1-33:24

In our last lesson we learned that Judah was warned not to depend on Egypt for help. Today we will learn why God said that Egypt would not be able to help Judah in a time of trouble. The Egyptians were only men. All people are weak and without strength unless the Lord gives them strength. Then we will go on to read about the king that does have the power to help Judah. That king is Christ. In the future when Christ comes to rule, He will rule the right way because He is without sin. He also knows all things. God also gave Judah a wonderful promise when He said that He would deliver Jerusalem from all of its enemies in the future.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why Egypt would not help Judah.
- Explain what we learn about the future rule of Christ.
- Explain when the Lord will deliver the city of Jerusalem.
- Explain what God said are the results of judgment.

God told the people of Judah that judgment would come on those who chose to depend on Egypt or horses and chariots to save them. Many of the people of Judah thought that Egypt could help them because Egypt had many chariots of war. They also had many strong men that could fight on horses. However, God said that none of these things would help Judah. The Egyptians were only weak men. They could not have victory unless the Lord allowed them to have victory. Their horses were only horses and were not the Spirit of God. As a result, those who placed their trust in the Egyptians and their horses would fall down and die along with the Egyptians and those horses.

1. Read Isaiah 31:1-9 and write who God said would fight to defend Mount Zion (Jerusalem).
2. Explain why God warned Judah that they could not depend on the horses and chariots of Egypt to protect them.
3. Explain why you think that many people are like the people of Judah and depend on their things of this world for protection instead of the Lord.

Here we see that God promised that He would come and defend the city of Jerusalem. In addition to defending the city, God also promised to deliver and preserve the city. Here we see why we can never lose when the Lord is fighting for us. The Lord is able to defend us from all of the attacks of Satan. The Lord will also deliver us and go through the hard places with us. He is the One that can preserve us and as a result no one can take away the eternal life that He has given to us. As a result, we do not need to be fearful or afraid of anything that may happen to us.

4. Read Isaiah 31:1-9 and write how God said that the Assyrians would fall when He judged them.
5. Explain why God promised that He was going to defend, protect and deliver the city of Jerusalem.
6. Explain why you know that the Lord is able to defend you in your life from all of the attacks of Satan.

God promised that in the day that He judged the Assyrians that the Assyrians would fall by the sword. However, it would not be the swords of men. Instead it would be the sword of God that killed the Assyrians. In a few chapters we will read what happened when the Assyrians came to fight against the city of Jerusalem. The leader of the Assyrians said in his pride that God would not be able to protect the city of Jerusalem because the armies of Assyria would destroy Jerusalem. The leader of the army of Assyria thought that he could speak against God. We will

see that one night the angel of the Lord went to the camp of the Assyrian army and killed 185,000 soldiers. That completed the prophecy in this chapter.

7. Read Isaiah 31:1-9 and write what God said Jerusalem would be to the Assyrians when God judged them.

8. Explain what you learn about the way that the Lord would protect His people from these verses.

9. Explain why you think that God said that He would judge the pride of the leader of the Assyrian army.

Suddenly God turned from the judgment of Judah to the future blessing of the entire nation of Israel. This is a promise that the Jews will one day experience because this blessing will come to Israel when Christ becomes the king. When Christ becomes the ruler, He will rule with righteousness. He will do everything the right way because He is the One that knows all things. In that day no person will be treated unfairly. Christ will be a place of protection. People will not need to be afraid any more in that day. Christ will be like a river in a dry place.

10. Read Isaiah 32:1-20 and write what will happen to the eyes of those who become old during the time that Christ rules.

11. Explain why people will not need to be afraid any longer when Christ comes to rule on the earth.

12. Explain why you think that God continued to remind the people of Judah and Israel that He will one day bless Israel again in the future.

Today as we grow old our bodies become tired and weary. Our eyes begin to grow dim and it becomes harder to hear when people talk to us. However, we see here that Christ will cause a great change when He comes to rule. In that day the eyes of each person will be able to see clearly. Each person will be able to hear clearly. People that could not understand before that day will now be able to understand. Those who could not speak clearly will now be able to speak so that everyone will understand. People will no longer say that evil people are good. Instead in that day everyone will know the difference between good and evil.

13. Read Isaiah 32:1-20 and write what Isaiah told the women to do.

14. Explain why the earth will be like when everyone realizes the difference between what is good and what is evil.

15. Explain how you think that the earth will be changed when all of the people are able to understand clearly.

In the time of Isaiah the women as well as the men were filled with pride. These women did as they chose. They did not care if they did things that were wrong. They had plenty of money and lived an easy life. As a result, these women did not even think about worshiping and serving God. As a result, Isaiah spoke to these women and warned them to turn from their sins and do the things that are right. They needed to be sorry for their sins. Otherwise it would be necessary for them to suffer the judgment of God. They and the women that followed them would not enjoy their land and have Christ as their ruler over them.

16. Read Isaiah 32:1-20 and write what God said would be on their land if they failed to turn from their idols.

17. Explain why God warned about the pride of the women of Judah as well as the pride of the men.

18. Explain why you think that Judah experienced many problems in the time of Isaiah because of the fact that both the men and the women were filled with pride.

The people did not listen to the warning of Isaiah. Instead both the men and women continued to live in their sin. As a result, the day did come when God finally did judge the people. He took them out of their land and took them as captives to foreign lands. Since there was no one to care for their fields, briars and thorns grew up instead. Their rulers were taken away so that

the palaces became empty. Instead of people wild animals wandered through their houses. Here we see that the day came when the Lord carried out His warning about judgment.

19. Read Isaiah 32:1-20 and write what God promised would be poured on the people from on high in the future.

20. Explain why it was necessary for God to judge Israel before Christ could become their king.

21. Explain why you think that God warned the people that judgment would come on them if they failed to listen to Him.

We also read several other things that will happen in Israel when Christ becomes the king of the nation of Israel. Instead of an empty wilderness, the land will become a fruitful field again. Christ will rule and so in both Israel and throughout the earth all things will be judged according to righteousness. This means that everything will be judged according to what is right. As a result, there will be peace throughout the earth. People will also have peace and quietness in their hearts because they know that they are right with God. They will have assurance in their hearts that they have eternal life.

22. Read Isaiah 32:1-20 and write what kind of resting places the people will have in that day.

23. Explain what the nation of Israel will be like when Christ comes to be the ruler that will judge in righteousness.

24. Explain why you think that the rule of Christ on the earth will cause the people to have peace and quietness in their hearts.

We read that God went on to warn the people that they would receive exactly what they have given to others. Those who had destroyed and spoiled the things that belonged to others would have their own possessions spoiled. Those who had done evil to others would have evil done to them. However, the Lord would show His kindness and love to those who placed their trust in Him. God would be gracious to those who had their trust in Him. In the same way the Lord will be our salvation and protection when we face a time of great trouble. The Lord is the One that is in control of all things. He will judge those who do evil and show kindness to those who serve Him.

25. Read Isaiah 33:1-13 and write who will be exalted.

26. Explain why the Lord warned the people of Israel and Judah that they would receive exactly what they gave to others.

27. Explain why you think that the Lord reminds people in both the Old and New Testaments that they will reap exactly as they have sown.

Here we see that it is the Lord that deserves all praise. He is the One who does all things right. He is the One who will be a great and wonderful ruler. He will never make a wrong judgment. When Christ rules on the earth, people will also have greater understanding and knowledge. Even today when we place our trust in Christ, we have greater understanding and knowledge because we are able to think the thoughts of God. We are able to understand the thoughts of God and His thoughts are much higher than our thoughts. As a result, as we grow spiritually we are able to begin to see more things from the viewpoint of the Lord.

28. Read Isaiah 33:1-13 and write with what Christ will fill Zion (Jerusalem)

29. Explain why the Lord reminded the people of what He would do in the future even as He warned of judgment in the present.

30. Explain how your own knowledge and understanding of things has increased since you placed your trust in Christ.

God promised that the enemies of Israel would make the land of Israel a land of emptiness. This judgment was necessary because the people had turned away from God. However, God also promises that He will judge those who have done evil to the people of Israel. In that day God will be lifted up because He will destroy the enemies of Israel. Then all of the people of Israel will recognize the Lord and worship Him. God will destroy the enemies of Israel just as

fire burns the stubble off a field of wheat that has been cut.

31. Read Isaiah 33:1-13 and write what the people that live a long way from the nation of Israel will hear in that day.

32. Explain why God promised that the day will come when He will reverse the effects of what the enemies have done to the land of Israel.

33. Explain why it is important to understand that God has not forgotten the Jews and one day they will recognize the Lord and worship Him.

We also see the results of the judgment of the Lord. We see that those who are sinners will be afraid. Those who are hypocrites will be filled with fear. A hypocrite is a person that pretends to serve the Lord but is actually serving the devil. He knows how to give the right answers but he does not live the way that he talks. Instead he says one thing and does the opposite. Such people will be burned with everlasting judgment. However, those who walk and speak the way that God wants them to walk and to speak will receive a great reward. They will have a place to live in heaven. They will be protected by the Lord and God will supply their needs.

34. Read Isaiah 33:14-24 and write what the people of Israel will see with their eyes in the day that they meet Christ.

35. Explain why it is important to understand that the Lord will judge all hypocrites in whatever time that they live.

36. Explain why you think that the Lord reminds those who walk in His ways that they will not experience judgment with the hypocrites.

It will be a great and wonderful day when the people of Israel see Christ. They will see Him in all of His beauty. In that day, the hearts of the people of Israel will no longer be filled with fear. They will never again need to worry about another nation fighting against them because they will know that Christ has complete control over all of the evil powers of the world. Instead Jerusalem will be a quiet and peaceful city. No one will be able to destroy the posts that show the boundaries of the city. Here we see that the Lord will give peace and protection to all those who will put their trust in Him in that day. He will be their peace.

37. Read Isaiah 33:14-24 and write what the Lord will be called in that day.

38. Explain why it is important to understand that when Christ rules the hearts of the people will no longer be filled with fear.

39. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that Christ gives you His peace and His protection.

In addition to being the King of the earth, Christ will also be the judge when He rules on the earth. He will be the One that makes all of the laws. As a result all of the laws will be just and right. He will be the One that gives salvation to all those who place their trust in Him. He will be the One that controls all things on the seas and oceans as well as on the land. We also read that Christ will take away sickness. Here we see again that Christ is the One who can heal all sickness and disease. There is nothing that will be too hard for Christ in that day.

40. Read Isaiah 33:14-24 and write what will happen to the iniquities of the people when Christ comes to rule.

41. Explain how the earth will be changed when all of the laws on the earth are laws that are just and right.

42. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord will keep His promises and remember His promises to Israel in the future.

Reread Isaiah 31:1-33:24 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 13
Isaiah 34:1-36:22

In our last lesson we learned that God promised that He would free Judah from its enemies. Today we will learn about the great judgment that God promised would come to the enemies of the nation of Israel. God promised that He would judge the evil nations with a very great judgment because of their persecution of the Jews. When God brings judgment, it is always a very complete judgment. We also read more about the blessings that Israel will receive in the future when the Lord brings the Jews back into the own land. Finally we will learn about the invasion of the nation of Judah by the Assyrian army.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how God said the enemies of Israel would be judged.
- Explain what God promised about the blessings that Israel will receive.
- Explain what happened when the Assyrian army came against Judah.

Through the centuries many different nations have persecuted the Jews. In His own time, God has judged every one of these nations. Today we see a picture of the final judgment of the nations when the Lord will judge all of the nations that will come against Israel. The nations of the world will gather together a great army to come and destroy the nation of Israel. However, those armies will not destroy Israel. Instead God will bring judgment on those armies. They will be completely destroyed by the Lord. There will be a terrible smell because of all of the dead bodies. The mountains will be covered with blood. Here we see that the judgment of the armies that will come against the nation of Israel will be very great and terrible. The judgment of God will also affect the stars in that day.

1. Read Isaiah 34:1-17 and write who this judgment will come upon besides the nation of Edom.
2. Explain why God promises that He will completely destroy all of the armies of the nations that will come against Israel in the future to destroy that nation.
3. Explain why you think that God promises that those nations and people that reject Him will one day experience judgment.

God promised that He would bless those nations that blessed the Jews. He said that He would curse and judge those nations that did evil to the Jews. The sword of the Lord will be filled with blood at the time in the future when He brings judgment upon all of the evil nations that will come against Israel. The land will be filled with blood. It will be a day of great and terrible judgment as the Lord punishes the evil nations of the earth. It will be a year when the Lord will punish all of the nations that have done evil. The land of Edom is promised special judgment.

4. Read Isaiah 34:1-17 and write what will happen to the streams of the land of Edom when God judges Edom.
5. Explain why God will keep the promise that He made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to bless those nations that bless their descendants, the Jews.
6. Explain why you think that when God makes a promise that He will never break that promise.

Pitch causes fires to become very hot as they burn. This burning pitch will become so hot that the dust will become like melted rock. The entire land will become a fire that cannot be put out. Instead this fire will be a fire that continues to burn year after year and generation after generation. No one will be able to put the fire out. The land will become empty except for the

- wild animals. All of the rulers of the land of Edom will be destroyed. None of the leaders will remain. Here we see that when the Lord judges Edom that it will be a very complete judgment.
7. Read Isaiah 34:1-17 and write what will be in the palaces of the land instead of rulers.
 8. Explain why God promised that the nation of Edom will experience a fire that cannot be put out.
 9. Explain why you think that God said that there would be a special judgment that would happen to the land of Edom.

Here we see a picture that shows how empty the land of Edom will be. There will not even be a single person to live in the palace and keep the thorns and bushes from gaining complete control. The birds and the animals will use the palace as a place to live and raise their young. They will be no one to bother or disturb the birds and the animals. The Lord has promised in His Word that He will judge Edom. The judgment of Edom will happen exactly as God has promised that it will happen. The judgment of Edom also gives us a picture of the judgment that will come upon all of the people that choose to rebel against the Lord.

10. Read Isaiah 34:1-17 and write how long the Lord said that the land of Edom would be a possession of the animals and birds.
11. Explain what you have learned about the judgment that God promises to bring on the nations from this chapter.
12. Explain why you think that God said that the land of Edom would become a possession of the animals and the birds.

As we see the picture that the Lord has given of the future judgment of the nation of Edom, we see that the Lord also gives us a real picture of the future blessing that will be experienced by the nation of Israel. Instead of remaining like a desert, God says that the nation of Israel will blossom like a rose. It will become a rich and beautiful land that will look like a garden. The people will be filled with joy and singing in that day as they see the wonderful works of the Lord. The people will also see the glory of the Lord. They will realize the greatness and the power of the Lord. They will recognize that these things show the greatness and the power of the Lord.

13. Read Isaiah 35:1-10 and write what God says to those who have weak hands.
14. Explain why the people of Israel will be filled with joy and singing in that future day that the Lord brings His blessing on the nation of Israel
15. Explain why you think that it is important for all people to hear about the greatness and power of the Lord.

In that day we see that the hands of the weak will receive strength because the Lord will give them strength. God will also take away fear from those who have been fearful. He will come and save His people in that day. When He comes, Christ will also help those who have physical needs. He will open the eyes of the blind. He will open the ears of the deaf so that they can hear. The people that were unable to walk will be healed so that they can begin to leap. Those who could not even talk will be healed so that they are even able to sing. In this passage we see that Christ has all power so that he can heal all forms of sickness and disease.

16. Read Isaiah 35:1-10 and write what the highway will be called that God will make in the land in that day.
17. Explain why it is important to understand that a day will come when the Lord will give strength to those who are weak.
18. Explain why you think that the Lord is going to bring healing to all forms of sickness and disease in the future.

In addition to meeting the physical needs of those who are sick, we see that Christ also says that He will give water to the dry ground. This will cause the ground to become fruitful. The Lord will build a highway through the land. This highway will be called the way of holiness. Those

who are living in sin will not be able to walk on this highway. Instead this highway will be only for those who are right with God. Today the Lord also wants Christians to live lives that are holy and pure. The Lord wants us to have hearts that are pure and clean.

19. Read Isaiah 35:1-10 and write what kinds of songs the ransomed will sing as they return to the city of Zion.

20. Explain why the Lord is going to cause the land to become a fruitful land in the future.

21. Explain why you think that the Lord wants you to live a life that is pure and holy in our own day.

We have seen that no sinful people will be walking on the highway of holiness. We also see that there will be no wild animals near that highway. Only those who have had their sins removed by the blood of Christ will walk on that highway. Those who have been bought by the blood of Christ will return to the land. Here we are reminded again that the Lord will never forget that He has chosen the nation of Israel as His special people. As the people return to the land of Israel they will be singing songs of joy. In fact they will be filled with joy that will last forever.

22. Read Isaiah 35:1-10 and write what will disappear in that day.

23. Explain why these verses remind us that the people of Israel will one day be filled with joy by the Lord.

24. Explain why you think that all of the people that walk on the highway of holiness will have had their sins forgiven by the Lord.

After reminding us of that great time in the future when sorrow and sighing will be gone, we see that the Lord told Isaiah to write some additional things that would happen during the time that Isaiah was living in the land. When Hezekiah had been the king of the land of Judah, the armies of the Assyrians came and fought against Judah and destroyed many of the cities in the land. Later the king of Assyria sent his armies against Judah a second time. This time the king of Assyria planned to destroy the city of Jerusalem so that the Assyrians could gain complete control of the country of Judah.

25. Read Isaiah 36:1-10 and write who the king of Assyria sent to lead the Assyrian army against Judah.

26. Explain why God allowed the Assyrian army to destroy many of the cities of Judah during the time of Isaiah.

27. Explain why you think that the Assyrians planned to destroy the city of Jerusalem so that they could gain complete control of the land of Judah.

Rabshakeh was the title given to the most important general in the Assyrian army. He met with the men that Hezekiah had sent to talk with him. Rabshakeh immediately began boasting about the strength and power of the army of Assyria. Rabshakeh said that Judah should surrender to him because they had no one to help them. He said that he knew that the king of Egypt would not help Judah. Then Rabshakeh began speaking against God. He said that God could not help the Jews because he was such a powerful general. Here we see a real picture of the pride of men who think that they are strong. Their pride causes them to ignore the power of the Lord.

28. Read Isaiah 36:1-10 and write who Rabshakeh said had sent him to destroy the land of Judah.

29. Explain why pride causes people to think that they can speak against God because they think that God has no power over them.

30. Explain why you think that the Lord will be quick to judge those who are filled with pride in their hearts.

Rabshakeh was so filled with pride that He went on to make fun of the Jews as well as making fun of God. He said that the Jews were weak. He said that they were trusting in the power of Egypt to protect them. Then Rabshakeh showed even more pride as he claimed that the Lord had told him to come against Judah and destroy the city of Jerusalem. Here we see a trick that

the devil often uses. He tries to make people think that they are receiving their power from God when it is actually the devil that they are following. Such people also try to lead others the wrong way.

31. Read Isaiah 36:11-22 and write what language the Jews asked Rabshakeh to speak as he talked to them.

32. Explain why Rabshakeh thought that he could make fun of God as well as the Jews because of his pride.

33. Explain why you think that the devil tries to deceive people by getting them to think that they are receiving power from God when they are actually following the devil.

The Jews were speaking to Rabshakeh just outside the wall of the city of Jerusalem. The Jewish leaders were afraid that the boasts of Rabshakeh would make the people on the wall fearful and afraid. As a result, they asked Rabshakeh to speak in his own language. Instead of listening to the Jewish leaders, Rabshakeh turned around and began to shout to the Jews that were on the wall of Jerusalem. He promised to give the people some land in the country of Assyria if they would listen to him and follow him. Here we see another trick of the devil. The devil tries to make sin look good so that people will follow him instead of following Christ.

34. Read Isaiah 36:11-22 and write who Hezekiah said would deliver the city of Jerusalem.

35. Explain why Rabshakeh began to shout to the people on the wall of the city of Jerusalem.

36. Explain why you think that the devil always tries to make sin look good in order to deceive people.

Rabshakeh went on to boast about the way that the armies of Assyria had been victorious over all of the people of the surrounding countries. Rabshakeh said that the gods of these other countries had not protected the people of these other nations. Here we see that many people think that God is just like the false gods that people make with their hands. This is one reason why it is so important that we help people to realize that we serve the God that is the Creator of all things and that He is alive and concerned about our lives. Christ had victory over death. As a result, we know that Christ has all power and can give victory to those who place their trust in Him.

37. Read Isaiah 36:11-22 and write what the people answered Rabshakeh as he shouted to them.

38. Explain what is happening in the life of a person that boasts that his power is greater than the power of God.

39. Explain why you think that Rabshakeh was boastful as he spoke to the Jews that had been sent to talk to him.

As Rabshakeh spoke against the king of Judah and against God, the people on the wall did not answer a single word. Here we see a real picture of obedience. Instead of trying to fight and argue with Rabshakeh the people obeyed their king instead. In the same way, if we will obey Christ we will know that Christ will take care of us and judge those who are speaking against us. Many times those who are against Christ will try to get us to argue with them to try and prove that we are right. Proverbs tells us that we will lose either way if we argue in such a situation.

40. Read Isaiah 36:11-22 and write who the men of Judah told about the words of Rabshakeh.

41. Explain why Hezekiah knew that it was important to tell the people not to try to answer Rabshakeh.

42. Explain why you think that it is important for every Christian to learn to obey the Lord

Reread Isaiah 34:1-36:22 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 14
Isaiah 37:1-39:8

Today we will be learning about several things that happened in the land of Judah during the time that Hezekiah was the king of Judah. We saw in our last lesson that the king of Assyria sent his armies against the city of Jerusalem. Although Hezekiah was afraid, he made the right decision. He decided to ask the Lord for help instead of trying to defeat the Assyrian army in his own strength. As Hezekiah prayed to the Lord, God promised that He would gain the victory over the Assyrian army. God gained this victory by sending the angel of the Lord to kill most of the men in the Assyrian army. In one night, 185,000 Assyrian soldiers were killed.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study.

By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why Hezekiah asked the Lord to help Judah.
- Explain how God answered the prayer of Hezekiah.
- Explain what happened as Hezekiah prayed while he was sick.
- Explain what we learn about failure in the life of Hezekiah.

In our last lesson we learned how Rabshakeh, the leader of the Assyrian army, spoke against God and against Hezekiah. The men of Judah that had met with Rabshakeh then brought that message to Hezekiah. Hezekiah immediately put on sackcloth and went to the temple to pray. Hezekiah also sent messengers to Isaiah to tell him about the words of the Assyrians. Here we see that Hezekiah wanted to talk to the Lord and then have a prophet tell him how the Lord had answered his prayer. Isaiah told Hezekiah that he did not need to worry. Because the Assyrians had blasphemed God, God said that He would bring judgment on the Assyrians. The city of Jerusalem would be protected from the Assyrian army.

1. Read Isaiah 37:1-20 and write what God said that He would do to the king of Assyria in his own land.
2. Explain why it is important to pray to the Lord and then let Him show us the answer to our prayer through His Word.
3. Explain why you think that Isaiah said that because the Assyrians had blasphemed God that God would judge the Assyrians.

God also caused Rabshakeh to go away from the city of Jerusalem because his country was also fighting in some other places. However, Rabshakeh and Sennacherib the king of Assyria did not just forget Jerusalem. Instead the leader of the Assyrian nation sent a message to Hezekiah. In this letter the king of Assyria spoke against the Lord. He told Hezekiah that Hezekiah should not think that the Lord had protected Jerusalem. In fact, the letter promised that the Assyrian army would soon return to completely destroy the city of Jerusalem. The Assyrian leader said that God would not be able to help the people of Israel in the day that he returned.

4. Read Isaiah 37:1-20 and write what Hezekiah did with the letter from the leader of Assyria after he read the letter.
5. Explain what this letter teaches about the pride of the king of Assyria as he promised that his army would soon return to destroy Jerusalem.
6. Explain why you think that the king of Assyria sent a letter to Hezekiah telling him not to think that the Lord had protected Jerusalem.

Hezekiah gives us a good example of the way to deal with problems that the Lord allows to come into our lives. Instead of becoming concerned about these problems, we should take these problems to the Lord in prayer. Hezekiah realized that Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, was a very powerful king. He had destroyed many cities and nations. However, those other nations

had depended on gods that were not able to help them. The gods that the other nations had trusted were made of wood or stone. Here we read that Hezekiah prayed that God would protect His people and show that He is God and has control over all of the nations of the earth.

7. Read Isaiah 37:1-20 and write what Hezekiah wanted all of the other nations to know about God.

8. Explain what Hezekiah teaches from his example about the way to deal with problems that we face in life.

9. Explain why you think that it is important for you in your own life to ask the Lord for wisdom for the problems that you face in your life.

Because Hezekiah chose to ask the Lord to help him, God gave Hezekiah a wonderful promise. God promised that He would be the One that would protect the nation of Judah. We also see a real picture of the pride of the king Assyria. He was boasting about all of the things that he had done. He thought that he was very powerful. He thought that his powerful army could give him victory over all of those nations that tried to fight against him. However, we know that God is the One who will always have the final word. Sennacherib was only allowed to boast until the Lord said that he had boasted for long enough.

10. Read Isaiah 37:21-38 and write who the king was actually blaspheming when he spoke these words.

11. Explain why the Lord allowed the king of Assyria to boast but only for a certain period of time.

12. Explain why you think that when people are filled with pride that they will always begin to boast about the things that they have done.

The Assyrians thought that they could boast against the Lord and felt that God would not hear them. Today people are still the same. People feel that they can do as they choose because God cannot stop them. However, the Lord gives a wonderful answer to those who boast against Him. He says that He knows where each person is living. God knows every time a person goes in or out of his house. God knows every word that any person speaks against Him. God even knows the evil thoughts of people. As a result, God knows more than just the words of those who boast against Him. He also knows the thoughts that they are thinking in their hearts.

13. Read Isaiah 37:21-38 and write what God said that He would do to the king of Assyria after He put a hook in the nose and bridle in the mouth of the king.

14. Explain why it is important for those who boast about the Lord to realize that He knows the thoughts of their hearts.

15. Explain why you think that it is important in your own life to know that the Lord knows the thoughts that you think.

Here we are reminded again that the Lord is the One that will always have the final word. God said that He would lead the king just like a man leads a bull. God is always able to show that He is in complete control and that people cannot speak against Him. God also promised that He would protect the people that were in Judah. They could look forward to the day when they would again have fruit in the land. The king of Assyria would not be able to defeat Jerusalem. In fact, God said that He would stop the army of Assyria before the army could even shoot one arrow at the city of Jerusalem.

16. Read Isaiah 37:21-38 and write why God said that He would defend the city of Jerusalem.

17. Explain why it is important to know that God will show that He is the One that is in complete control when people boast against Him.

18. Explain why you think that God said that He would stop the army of Assyria before they could even shoot one arrow at Jerusalem.

Here we see that God promised to protect the city of Jerusalem for the sake of His own name. He would cause His name to be honored. The Lord also promised to protect the city of

Jerusalem because of His love for David. That night the Lord kept His promise to protect the city. The angel of the Lord killed 185,000 men of the Assyrian army in one night. When the men that were not killed woke up the next morning, they realized that most of the men in their army were dead. Instead of trying to fight against the city the Jerusalem with the soldiers that remained, the king took his army and went home. After the king arrived back in his own country, two of his own sons killed him.

19. Read Isaiah 37:21-38 and write where Sennacherib was killed by his two sons.

20. Explain how the Lord judged the boasting of the Assyrian king and his general against the Lord.

21. Explain why you think that God said that He would protect the city of Jerusalem because of His love for David.

As we go on in our study, we read about the way that the Lord healed Hezekiah when he became sick. Hezekiah was very sick so the Lord told him to get things in order because he would soon die. When Hezekiah received this message that his earthly life would soon come to an end, Hezekiah began to pray to the Lord. As Hezekiah prayed, he reminded the Lord that he had been faithful in his service to the Lord. He mentioned that he had spoken the truth and done the things that were right in the sight of the Lord. We read that the Lord listened as Hezekiah prayed to Him. God agreed to let Hezekiah live for an additional period of time.

22. Read Isaiah 38:1-22 and write how many years God said that He would add to the life of Hezekiah.

23. Explain what you learn about the life of Hezekiah from the things that he said in his prayer to the Lord.

24. Explain why you think that the Lord agreed to extend the life of Hezekiah and let him live for an additional period of time.

In addition to allowing Hezekiah to live an extra fifteen years, God also promised to defend the city of Jerusalem and protect it from the Assyrians. Then God said that He would do a great miracle to show Hezekiah that He would keep His promise to Hezekiah. God said that He would move the sun back ten degrees (forty minutes). Today scientists say that their study of the stars shows evidence that accounts for the long day in the book of Joshua and for this change of forty minutes that is mentioned here. If it were not for the Bible, the scientists would not be able to understand why the stars are in the exact pattern that they have because of these times mentioned here and in Joshua.

25. Read Isaiah 38:1-22 and write what sun dial the Lord used to show that He had moved the sun back ten degrees.

26. Explain why God chose to add an extra forty minutes to that one day to show Hezekiah that He would keep His promise.

27. Explain why you think that God chose to show His power over all of the forces of nature as a sign to Hezekiah.

We also read the words of Hezekiah when he saw that the Lord was going to allow him to live for an additional fifteen years. He realized that God is the One who has the power over life and death. Hezekiah wrote about his thanks and praise to God when he saw how the Lord had healed him. As we read his prayer of praise, we see that Hezekiah realized what things in life are the most important. He was thankful to the Lord for healing him from his sickness. However, Hezekiah was even more thankful for the fact that God had forgiven and removed his sins. Today the forgiveness of our sins is also the thing that should cause us to be the most thankful.

28. Read Isaiah 38:1-22 and write what God told Isaiah to use to heal the sickness of Hezekiah.

29. Explain why the greatest thing that Christ has done for any person is the fact that He paid the penalty so that He could freely forgive our sins.

30. Explain why you think that Hezekiah was most thankful for the fact that God had forgiven

and removed his sins.

As we read the prayer of Hezekiah, we learn some important lessons for our own lives. At first Hezekiah had been filled with great sorrow as he thought about dying. Then Hezekiah said that he realized that the Lord was trying to teach him certain lessons. He realized that the sickness that the Lord had allowed in his life was for his own good. Many times it is necessary for God to allow sickness or some other thing to happen in our lives in order to teach us certain lessons that the Lord wants to teach us. As a result of the lessons that Hezekiah had learned, he said that he would sing praises to God for the rest of his life. Today we should also be filled with joy as we think of all of the wonderful things that the Lord has done for us.

31. Read Isaiah 38:1-22 and write who Hezekiah said would praise God.

32. Explain why Hezekiah said that he would be filled with joy and praise to the Lord for the rest of his life.

33. Explain why you think that God allows sickness and other forms of suffering in our lives in order to help us learn certain lessons.

Other people also heard that Hezekiah had been healed from his sickness. One of the people that heard how Hezekiah had been healed from his sickness was the king of Babylon. As a result, the king of Babylon sent a gift to Hezekiah. Then Hezekiah became proud and showed the messengers from the king of Babylon all of his riches and wealth. Hezekiah showed the messengers from Babylon everything in his kingdom that was worth very much money. Here we see one of the things that often happens to people when they become proud. They begin to boast about the things that they have. After Hezekiah had shown all of his riches to the messengers from Babylon, God sent a man with a message to Hezekiah.

34. Read Isaiah 39:1-8 and write who God sent to go and speak to Hezekiah.

35. Explain why this gift from the king of Babylon caused Hezekiah to show the messengers from Babylon all of his wealth.

36. Explain why you think that the gathering of possessions can easily lead a person to become proud.

Isaiah came to Hezekiah and asked him who had come to visit him. Then Isaiah asked what these men had seen. Hezekiah was still letting pride control his life. He told Isaiah that the men had come from a far country called Babylon. They had come just to see him. Then he told how he had shown the men from Babylon all of his riches. Here we see that Hezekiah was boasting. After Hezekiah had finished speaking about his visitors, Isaiah gave him a message from the Lord. God said that the nation of Babylon would one day come to Jerusalem and carry those riches back to the land of Babylon.

37. Read Isaiah 39:1-8 and write what God said would happen to the sons of Hezekiah because of his pride.

38. Explain what these verses teach about the dangers of pride in the life of any person.

39. Explain why you think that pride will often cause a person to start boasting about the things that the person has done.

God gives us a real picture of the results of sin in these verses. Later the riches of Jerusalem were carried away to the land of Babylon. The city of Jerusalem was completely destroyed so that there was nothing left in the city. The descendants of Hezekiah were taken as slaves to the land of Babylon. When we see the consequences of the results of the pride of Hezekiah, it should cause us to examine our own lives. We need to realize the danger that pride will bring to our lives. We also see the need to make certain that we do not allow sin to remain in our lives.

40. Read Isaiah 39:1-8 and write what Hezekiah said when he heard the Word of the Lord to him.

41. Explain how the pride of Hezekiah greatly affected the future of the family of Hezekiah and

the future of the city of Jerusalem.

42. Explain why you think that it is important to examine your own life to make certain that you do not allow pride to develop in your own life.

Reread Isaiah 37:1-39:8 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 15
Isaiah 40:1-41:29

We have seen how the Lord warned Israel and Judah of coming judgment. As we come to chapter forty, we see that the Lord changed the focus of the message of Isaiah. In this lesson we will be studying about the greatness of the Lord. We will see how small man is when he is compared to God. Man is just like a piece of grass. The life of man on this earth is very short. We will also see how people fail when they place their trust in their own strength. However, we will also see that it is possible for people to have their strength renewed by the Lord. Then we will be reminded that the Lord is greater than any idol. An idol will never be able to help any person. In contrast, the Lord is able to help us at all times.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what Isaiah teaches about the greatness of God.
- Explain how people can receive and renew their strength.
- Explain how Isaiah showed that the Lord is much greater than idols.

As we have seen in the first half of the book of Isaiah, Isaiah had been warning the nation of Judah about coming judgment. Now Isaiah began to speak to encourage the people that would receive that judgment. About one hundred years after Isaiah gave this message, the people of Judah were taken as captives to the land of Babylon. From that time until the present, most of the descendants of Jacob had been scattered in foreign countries. Much of the rest of the book of Isaiah speaks about the coming of Christ. Some passages talk about His first coming and others about His coming to rule on the earth. The Lord knew that this message would be a real encouragement to the people that were captives in foreign countries. We see that Isaiah began by telling the people that a future day would come when they would be pardoned from their sins. God also promised that He would send one that would go before Christ.

1. Read Isaiah 40:1-17 and write what Isaiah wrote that the person coming before Christ would say.
2. Explain why God gave the descendants of Jacob a promise that they would one day be pardoned from their sins.
3. Explain why you think that the promises about the future have been a real comfort to the Jews through the years.

Here we read the message that John the Baptist would preach to the people almost seven hundred years later. This was the message that John preached to announce the coming of Christ. Although many of the people did not listen to the message of John the Baptist, his message completed the promise that is given here in the book of Isaiah. In these verses we also see that God promised that one day all people will see the glory of the Lord. This has not yet happened. It will happen at the time when Christ comes back to rule on the earth. In that day all people will see the glory of Christ. We also see that the lives of people are like grass. We live and die very quickly.

4. Read Isaiah 40:1-17 and write how the Word of God is different from the grass.
5. Explain why God wanted the people to know that one day all people will see the glory of the Lord.
6. Explain why you think that the time of our life on this earth can be compared to the grass because it is gone very quickly.

When Christ came to this earth the first time, He came with a message of good news. Christ came to offer life to people that were facing death. He came to do the work that the Father had

given Him to do. Today Christ continues to do His work on this earth through the lives of Christians. We see that Isaiah promised that Christ would feed His flock just as a shepherd feeds his flock of sheep. We read that Christ wanted special attention to be given to those who are young lambs. Today Christ tells us that we are His under-shepherds. He gives us the responsibility to carry out His work here on this earth by feeding His flock and caring for those that are new followers of Christ.

7. Read Isaiah 40:1-17 and write how God said that Christ would lead those who are with young.

8. Explain why God wanted us to know that Christ would feed His flock just as a shepherd feeds his sheep.

9. Explain what you learn about your responsibility to feed all Christians and strengthen new Christians from these verses.

We go on to read that the Lord makes a comparison between God and man. In this comparison we see a picture of how small we are in comparison to the Lord. God holds the whole universe including the sun, moon and stars in His hand. Since God is so much greater than human beings, there is nothing that we can teach the Lord. Instead all of the nations are like a drop in a bucket in comparison to the Lord. We are like a little bit of dust on the scales. It is wonderful to know that God loves us even though He is so great and we are so small. The New Testament tells us that the Lord even knows the number of hairs that we have on our heads.

10. Read Isaiah 40:1-17 and write what the nations are like as they stand before God.

11. Explain why it is wonderful to know that God loves us even though we are like a little speck of dust.

12. Explain why you think that it is important for you in your own life to recognize the greatness of the Lord.

There is no way that the nations can even be compared to the Lord. When people do not have their trust in the Lord, they make images of their false gods from wood and stone. However, none of these images are like the true and living God. God is much greater than any idol because idols do not even have any life in themselves. The Lord formed the entire universe. He is the One that sits upon the circle of the earth. In comparison to God both men and their rulers are very small. God is so great that He was able to place all of the stars in their places more easily than a person puts a curtain in place. In fact all that the Lord had to do to create all things was speak the word.

13. Read Isaiah 40:18-31 and write the question that God (the Holy One) asked in these verses.

14. Explain why it is important for every person to understand that idols do not have any life in themselves.

15. Explain why you think that it is important to realize that Christ created the entire universe just by speaking the word.

The Lord is so great that we cannot compare Him to anyone. He is the One who has created all things. He knows all of the stars by name. He has all power. The things that the Lord has made never fail. God is an everlasting God. He had no beginning and He will never die. He is our Creator. God will never become tired. He understands all things so that there is not a single thing that He does not know. As we read about the greatness of the Lord, we realize again that we are nothing. It is only when we give the control of our lives to Christ that our lives can amount to anything. Without Christ our lives will accomplish nothing.

16. Read Isaiah 40:18-31 and write to whom God gives power.

17. Explain why it is hard to fully understand the fact that God knows and understands all things.

18. Explain why you are thankful that as you yield your life to the Lord that He is able to do greater things through your life than you can even imagine.

Without asking Christ to take control of our lives, we have no strength or power. We will faint and fall every time that we choose to depend on our own strength. However, the Lord promises that He will give power to those who are faint. He promises strength to those who have no strength. We also see the way to receive this strength from the Lord. We are told to wait on the Lord in order to have our strength renewed. To wait on the Lord means to spend much time in prayer, Bible study and meditation on the Word of God. As we pray, study and meditate on the Word of God, we will be given His strength so that He can do through our lives the things that once looked impossible to us in our own strength.

19. Read Isaiah 40:18-31 and write to what bird the Lord compares those who wait on the Lord.

20. Explain what these verses teach about the way to receive strength to do for the Lord the things that look impossible for us.

21. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to wait on the Lord by praying, studying the Bible and meditating on the Word of God.

We have seen that the Lord renews the strength of those who place their trust in Him. In contrast, we see that God spoke and said that those who place their trust in idols will be silent before Him because there is no one to give them strength. Then the Lord went on to tell how He is going to work out His plan for the nation of Israel. God promised that He would raise up a righteous king in the east that would allow the people that chose to do so to return to the land. Isaiah wrote this promise about 150 years before Cyrus gave the decree that allowed the Jews that chose to do so to return to their land. Here we see that God does His work and completes His purpose just as He promised through the Word written by Isaiah.

22. Read Isaiah 41:1-13 and write how everyone would treat their neighbor in the future.

23. Explain why God told the people about 150 years in advance that a king would give a decree that allowed them to return to their land.

24. Explain why you think that God promised to work through the king of another nation to allow those who chose to do so to return to the land.

Here we see that the Lord promised that in the future the people would help and encourage one another. God said that everyone will work together. Here we see the attitude that we should have as Christians today. We need to work together to do the work of the Lord. As Christians work together and encourage one another, much can be done for the Lord. We also read that Israel is the nation that God has chosen to be His own special people. Because God has chosen the nation of Israel, God will never forget the people of Israel. God will remember all of the promises that He has made to His people and carry out those promises.

25. Read Isaiah 41:1-13 and write why God promised that people do not need to fear or be afraid.

26. Explain why it is important for Christians to learn to work together to carry out the work of the Lord.

27. Explain why you are thankful to know that God will continue to carry out all of the promises that He has made to Israel.

Today we live in a world in which most people are filled and controlled by fear. This is one of the consequences of the sin of Adam and Eve. However, Christ says that He will take away the fear of those who place their trust in Him. God will encourage all who trust in Him because we become His children. He will give us His strength when we have no strength. He will give us the help that we need. He will hold us up so that we will not fall. Because the Lord is helping and holding us, there is nothing that should cause us to be afraid.

28. Read Isaiah 41:1-13 and write why Christ told the people that they did not need to have fear.

29. Explain why it is important for Christians to realize that they do not need to be fearful or afraid.

30. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from these verses about the way to have

victory over fear.

As we read on in chapter 41, we see that Israel is called a worm. Here we see a picture of the weakness that Israel experienced when the people of Israel depended on their own strength. In its own strength, the nation was without strength. However, we also see what the Lord can do to a nation that chooses to turn to Him for strength. God told the people of Judah that He was able to make them strong so that they would be able to have victory over all of their enemies. God promised the people that He would hear them when they would call to Him. God will never forsake His chosen people. He will give them the things that they need when they place their trust in Him.

31. Read Isaiah 41:14-29 and write how God said that He would provide water for those who were thirsty.

32. Explain why any nation of person that depends on its own strength will be without strength.

33. Explain why you think that God promised the people of Judah that He would hear them when they called to Him from their hearts.

Here we see that God supplies even more than enough when He meets the needs of those who trust in Him. Instead of just providing a little stream, God said that He will provide them with rivers of water. He will plant trees in the wilderness and in the desert. God said that He will do all of these things so that everyone will realize that He is the One who can do all things. In this way, people will be able to see and know the power of the Lord. They will be able to understand a little of His greatness. Here we are reminded again that nothing is impossible for the Lord. He has the power to do all things and supply every need of those who trust in Him.

34. Read Isaiah 41:14-29 and write who will create all of these things.

35. Explain why God promised that He would supply a river of water to those who were thirsty.

36. Explain why you think that God promises to give those who seek Him living water that is much greater than water in a river or stream.

God had just spoken about the things that He will do in the future for the nation of Israel. Then God offered a challenge to the people that were following idols. God said that if those idols were as great as their followers claimed that they were that the idols should also be able to tell what will happen in the future. However we see that the idols of people cannot give any information. They cannot produce any works. The reason for their failure is due to the fact that they are false gods. False gods cannot help the people that place their trust in them.

37. Read Isaiah 41:14-29 and write for whom God said that He raise up one that would bring good tidings.

38. Explain what these verses teach about false gods.

39. Explain why you think that God challenged those who followed idols to ask their idols what would happen in the future.

God went on to speak of the fact that there would be one that would come down from the north to complete the purpose of God. This one that would come would be from the east as well as the north. He would have a message of good news for the city of Jerusalem. We will learn more about this message of good news when we learn about Cyrus when we study chapter 44. There we will see how God said that He would use a foreign nation to complete His purposes for the nation of Israel. This is a reminder that God can choose to use any nation or any group of people to complete the purpose that He has and to carry out His will.

40. Read Isaiah 41:14-29 and write what God said about the works of the counselors of the false gods.

41. Explain why God said that He would bring one that would have a message of good news for the city of Jerusalem.

42. Explain why it is important to you to know that God can use any nation or group of people to complete His purpose.

Reread Isaiah 40:1-41:29 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 16
Isaiah 42:1-43:28

Today we will be learning some additional things that Isaiah wrote about Christ. We will also be learning some additional things about the nation of Israel. Israel was the nation that the Lord chose to be His people. However, Israel did not follow the Lord during much of its history. Instead the people followed idols and lived in sin. That made it necessary for God to discipline Israel. Today the Jews have been persecuted by foreign nations for more than 2500 years because of their sins. However, we know that the Lord has not forgotten His people. He has kept them as a separate people. The day will soon come when the descendents of Jacob will return to the Lord. Then they will receive great blessings from the Lord.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what Isaiah taught about Christ in these chapters.
- Explain why it was necessary for God to discipline Israel.
- Explain what Israel will be for the Lord in the future.
- Explain what will happen to Israel when God forgives Israel.

As we begin our study of some of the additional things that the Lord told Isaiah about Christ, we see that God calls Christ, My Servant. Christ was the servant of the Lord who came to do the work of the Lord. No one else was qualified to do the work that Christ came to do so God sent His own Son. We see that Christ came as the obedient servant as well as the obedient son. As a result, the submission of Christ caused the Father to be filled with joy. God told Isaiah that Christ would come to bring justice to the nations. He would provide two different kinds of justice. God said that Christ would bring judgment on the unbelieving nations. He said that Christ would give life to every person of any nation that chose to place their trust in Christ.

1. Read Isaiah 42:1-12 and write what God said that Christ would not do when He came to this earth.
2. Explain why the Father chose to call Christ, My Servant.
3. Explain why you think that it is important to understand that Christ was the only one that was qualified to do the work that He came to do.

We see that God talked about the quiet ministry that Christ would have when He came to this earth at His first coming. Christ did not come as a judge of the nations at His first coming. However, when Christ comes to this earth to rule, He will come as a judge. When Christ came the first time, He encouraged people even though their faith was weak. He also preached the truth about the way that people could be right with God. When Christ came the first time, He did not fail. Even though He died, He had victory over death and defeated death.

4. Read Isaiah 42:1-12 and write what Christ came to be to the Gentiles the first time that He came to this earth.
5. Explain why God said that Christ would have a quiet ministry the first time that He came to this earth.
6. Explain why it was important that Christ explained to people how to be right with God the first time that He came to earth.

Many people fail to realize that the Father promised that Christ would be a light to the nations of the world hundreds of years before the first coming of Christ to the earth. However, we read that Christ came to all people including both the Jews and the Gentiles. Christ came to open the eyes of the people that were blind. Christ came to bring people out of the prison house of sin. Today Christ gives us the responsibility to share the good news about Christ to those who are spiritually blind and chained by sin. We also see that Christ does not share His glory with false

gods and idols. God alone should receive our praise because He is holy.

7. Read Isaiah 42:1-12 and write what people are told to sing.

8. Explain why it is important that Christ came to be a light to the nations and not just to the people of Israel.

9. Explain what you think that God meant when He said that Christ came to open the eyes of the people that were blind.

Christ came to this earth as the obedient servant who obeyed the Father even though it meant that He would experience death. Because Christ completed the promise that God had given that One would come to set us free from the penalty of sin, it should be our desire to sing praises to Him. Wherever we are on this earth, it should be our desire to sing praises to Christ for what He has done. Christ has done great things so it should be our desire to give all praise and glory to Him. Without Christ we would be nothing. Because of the death and resurrection of Christ, we will share all of the riches of heaven with Christ.

10. Read Isaiah 42:1-12 and write from where people are to shout about the glory of the Lord.

11. Explain why these verses teach that it should be our desire to sing praises to Christ for what He has done.

12. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to be able to give praise and glory to the Lord.

We are also given a little picture of the way that Christ will come to the earth the second time. The second time that Christ comes to live on the earth; He will come as a judge. He will fight against all of those who are evil and in rebellion against God and destroy them. No evil person on the earth at that time will escape that judgment. Christ has waited a long time to judge the evil people of the earth. However, when Christ comes to judge the earth, His judgment will be complete. Following that judgment Christ will then bring blessing to the nation of Israel as well as all of the other people that have their trust in Him. He will lead them. He will give them light for their paths. He will not forsake them in that day.

13. Read Isaiah 42:13-25 and write how the evil people will feel in that day because they have trusted in false gods and idols.

14. Explain why God has shown great patience by waiting a long time to bring judgment on the people that follow evil.

15. Explain why you think that Christ must judge the nations before He can bring great blessing to all those who follow Him.

God also spoke about what the Jews were like during the time of Isaiah. God said that they were blind. They could not hear the messengers that the Lord sent to speak to them. Even the things that they did see, they did not understand. Because they would not hear what God was trying to tell them, God had to judge them even though they were His chosen people. In the day of Isaiah, the people did not listen to the warning of God. Today many people are just like the people of Judah in the day of Isaiah. They refuse to listen to the warning of God. As a result, God will also have to bring judgment on the people of all nations.

16. Read Isaiah 42:13-25 and write why God said that He would spoil Jacob (judge Israel).

17. Explain why the people of Judah could not hear and understand the messengers that God sent to warn them of their sin.

18. Explain why you think that there are still many people that cannot hear and understand the message of God.

God also showed the reason why God said that it was necessary for Him to judge the nation of Israel. God could have protected Israel from the foreign nations. However, God chose to allow the foreign nations to judge the nation of Israel because the people refused to walk in His ways. Instead of obeying the Lord, they chose to disobey the commandments of the Lord. Here we see that God gives a real warning to those who choose to rebel against God. God is a God of

love who will wait a long time to bring judgment on sinful people. However, God is also a holy God who must finally judge rebellion and disobedience.

19. Read Isaiah 42:13-25 and write why God allowed foreign nations to rob and spoil the land of Israel.

20. Explain why it is necessary for God to finally bring judgment when people continue to live in rebellion against Him.

21. Explain why you think that many people refuse to walk in the ways of the Lord and refuse to obey His commandments.

Just as God judged the nation of Israel, God promised that He will also bring them back into the land that He has promised to them. Christ paid the penalty for the sins of Israel as well as for the sins of all people when He died on the cross. Since Christ paid the penalty, He has the right to forgive the sins of all those who place their trust in Him whether they are Jews or Gentiles. God also promises to go with His people through the flood. He will walk with His people through the fire. Here we see that God does not always keep evil things from happening to His people. However, when God does allow evil to happen, Christ goes with us as we go through that testing and gives us strength. As a result, we do not need to worry about the things that are happening around us.

22. Read Isaiah 43:1-13 and write what God said that Israel was in His sight.

23. Explain why Christ has the right to forgive the sins of all those who place their trust in Him.

24. Explain why you think that Christ promises to go with us when we go through times of testing in our lives.

God has a great and everlasting love for the people of Israel. The people of Israel mean a lot to the Lord. He has such a great love for them that He will one day regather them and bring them back into their land. He will bring them from the east and from the west. He will gather them from the north and from the south. God created the people of Israel for His glory. He formed them and made them. Here He promises that He will bring them back together. God will also use the nation of Israel to be a blessing to the other nations of the earth.

25. Read Isaiah 43:1-13 and write what Israel will be among the other nations in a future time.

26. Explain why God will use the nation of Israel to be a blessing to the other nations in the future.

27. Explain why you think that God said that He created the people of Israel for His glory.

Here we see that one day the people of Israel will become the witnesses of God to the other nations of the earth. God will use them to complete His work. No one will be able to hinder the work of God. We also see what people must be in order to effective witnesses for Christ. We read that there will be no strange gods among the people of Israel in that day. Here we see the key if we want to be effective witnesses for Christ. We must dedicate every part of our life to Christ. We will not be effective if we are trying to follow the Lord and follow other things at the same time. We will only be truly effective witnesses for Christ as we dedicate our lives to Him so that He can work through our lives.

28. Read Isaiah 43:1-13 and write what the Lord says that He is that no one else can be.

29. Explain why it is important to avoid any strange gods or other things that could control our lives if we want to be effective witnesses for Christ.

30. Explain why you think that we will not be effective witnesses for Christ if we are trying to follow other things at the same time.

God also told the people of Judah what He was going to do to the foreign nations. God said that He would destroy all of the rulers of Babylon. He would get rid of the enemies that had caused Israel to suffer. God said that He would do this because He was the ruler of Israel. Even though they did not recognize Him, He was their true king. God said that He would completely destroy those foreign nations that were against His people. God said that when their

armies fell because of the judgment of God that their armies would not get up again. They would be completely destroyed so that none of those armies remained. Here we see that God promised that the judgment of Babylon would be so complete that nothing would be left of Babylon.

31. Read Isaiah 43:14-28 and write what God told the people not to remember.

32. Explain why God said that He would completely destroy the foreign nations that were against His people.

33. Explain why you think that God said that the judgment of Babylon would be so complete that there would be nothing left of the city of Babylon.

God went on to tell His people to look to the future and no longer look to the past. God said that He was going to do something that would be new, great and wonderful. God promised that He would make a way through the wilderness. He promised to make rivers in the desert.

Today we also need to follow these same instructions. Instead of looking to the past, we need to look to the future. We need to be excited about the things that the Lord will soon do through our lives. We cannot change the past so it is useless to think about the past any longer. We should choose instead to pray that God will make the most effective use of our lives in the future.

34. Read Isaiah 43:14-28 and write what God promised Israel that He would one day develop in the desert.

35. Explain why we should expect the Lord to be doing new things in our lives each day as we follow Him.

36. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to look to the future instead of focusing on the past.

In that day in the future when God makes rivers in the desert, even the animals will be thankful to God because He has supplied water for them in the desert. God will use those rivers in the desert to provide water for His people. Instead of remaining like a desert, the land will become a beautiful garden. In that day the people will sing praise to God. That will be a great change from the day of Isaiah. In the time of Isaiah, the people were not serving the Lord. Instead they offered their sacrifices to false gods. They were not honoring God. In fact they had forgotten all about God.

37. Read Isaiah 43:14-28 and write what else they had not brought to God.

38. Explain why God promises that the day will come in the future when the land of Israel will become a beautiful garden.

39. Explain why you think that the people in the day of Isaiah had completely forgotten about God and were serving false gods instead.

Here we see that the people were not bringing anything to the Lord. They were keeping everything that they got for themselves. They were causing God to have great sorrow because of their sins. Here God said that the day would come when He would forgive their sins. He would not remember their sins any longer. In fact God will completely blot out their transgressions for His own sake. God begged His people to remember Him. He asked them to follow Him and pray together to Him. God wants His people to be right with Him. He wants them to confess their sins so that He can have fellowship with them. Instead of following the Lord, the people had chosen to follow their false teachers and go the wrong way.

40. Read Isaiah 43:14-28 and write what their teachers had done.

41. Explain why the Lord is so anxious for His people to confess their sins to Him so that they can enjoy fellowship with Him.

42. Explain why you think that God said that He will one day completely blot out the transgressions of Israel for His own sake.

Reread Isaiah 42:1-43:28 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned

from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 17
Isaiah 44:1-45:25

Today we will learn about some additional wonderful promises that the Lord gave to the nation of Israel. We will also receive another warning about the uselessness of following idols. In this lesson we will learn about the promise of the Holy Spirit. We will also learn that God promised the Jews that a small group of the people would be allowed to return to their land during the time that Cyrus controlled a good portion of the world. This permission for the people to return to the land happened exactly as God had promised that it would happen. Finally we will see that God will use the nation of Israel to be a blessing to the people of the other nations.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain the promise that is given about the Holy Spirit.
- Explain what God promised the Jews about returning to their land.
- Explain how God used a sinful king to complete His purpose.
- Explain how Israel will be a blessing to the people of other nations.

As we begin our study of these chapters, we see that God emphasized again the fact that He had chosen the nation of Israel. God had chosen the nation of Israel and had made the family of Jacob to become a large nation. As a result, God now promised that He would not forget the nation of Israel. God promised that He would give His Spirit to their children. God said that one day all of the Jews will have the Holy Spirit in their lives because the entire nation will turn to Christ. In that day the people will receive great blessing from the Lord. They will grow like grass and trees that have plenty of water. The people will all be glad to say that they belong to the Lord.

1. Read Isaiah 44:1-20 and write what God says about Himself in these verses.
2. Explain why it is important to understand that God promised that one day all of the Jews would have the Holy Spirit in their lives.
3. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that Christ gave you the Holy Spirit at the moment that you placed your trust in Christ.

Here we are reminded of the fact that God is the only One who is a true God. He has always existed. He will always exist. There has never been anyone else that has always existed. As a result, no one else is the true God. When we place our trust in the Lord, we do not need to fear or be afraid any longer because God is the One who can do all things. However, false gods and idols cannot help people. They have been made from wood or stone or some kind of metal. Men take a tree and cut a piece of wood from it. Then a man carves the wood or burns the wood with fire until that piece of wood looks the way that the man wants that piece of wood to look.

4. Read Isaiah 44:1-20 and write what people do with one of these carved or graven images once they have made it.
5. Explain why it is important for people to understand that God has always existed and that He will continue to exist forever.
6. Explain why you think that many people will make an idol out of wood or stone and then worship that lifeless idol.

Here we see the reason why the false gods that people created cannot help them. People have made these gods with their own hands. These gods have no life in them. They cannot hear when people pray to them. They cannot help people when those people need help. This is the reason that people who worship idols and other false gods are always afraid. Even though they

are praying to their gods, they are afraid that their gods cannot hear them. Even though such people ask their gods to deliver them, they are afraid that they will receive no help. They know that they have created these gods with their own hands and that they are without life.

7. Read Isaiah 44:1-20 and write what kind of a heart has caused these people to turn aside from the Lord.

8. Explain why the fact that people know within themselves that their idols cannot hear, speak or help in any way cause the people that make them to be controlled by fear.

9. Explain why you think that it is important to help people to understand that the only way to truly get rid of fear is to take root in Christ and His love.

In these verses we see that a deceived heart is the thing that causes many people to fail to follow Christ. They have been deceived (tricked) by the devil. The devil causes people to believe that their gods and idols will be able to help them in their time of need. Today people continue to be deceived by the devil. Many people have made money or some other thing their god. They will do everything possible to get what they desire. As a result, they have no time to think about following Christ. In this way they have been deceived by the devil. He is leading them the wrong way because he is leading them down the path that leads to death and eternal separation from God. They will experience eternal judgment if they continue to follow the devil.

10. Read Isaiah 44:1-20 and write what people do with their carved images once they have made their carved images.

11. Explain what you learn about a deceived heart from these verses.

12. Explain why you think that it is important to pray that God will open the understanding of those who have a deceived heart.

God also promised that He would allow the people of Israel to return to their land one day. God had formed them into a nation of people. In this chapter we see that God promised that He would not forget His people. This passage also looks forward to the future when God said that one day He will completely remove their sins. Their sins will be as if they are covered with a thick cloud and blotted out. No one will ever be able to see their sins again. This is also what the Lord does for us when He forgives our sins. Our sins are completely removed and taken away. God will never hold those sins against us again.

13. Read Isaiah 44:21-28 and write who will sing because the sins of men have been forgiven and removed.

14. Explain why it is important to know that when God forgives sin that He blots that sin out so that no one will ever be able to see that sin again.

15. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that your sins have been forgiven and completely taken away.

We know that there is singing and rejoicing in heaven whenever a person becomes a Christian and that person has his sins forgiven. However, in this chapter we see that it is the heavens themselves that will sing. In recent years the people that study the stars have learned that the stars do sing. Here we see that God told people over 2500 years ago that the stars and the other things in the heavens sing. However, the important thing to notice is the reason that the heavens sing. The heavens sing because the sins of those who have placed their trust in Christ have been blotted out and have been completely removed. Those sins are gone forever.

16. Read Isaiah 44:21-28 and write the name of the man who God says is His shepherd to bring the people of Israel back into their land.

17. Explain why it is important to know that God said that the stars sing nearly 2500 years before people discovered that they sing.

18. Explain why it is important to you to know that the heavens sing because the sins of those who place their trust in Christ are blotted out and completely removed.

Even before Jerusalem was destroyed and the people were taken as captives to foreign countries, God promised that He would rebuild the cities of Judah. About 150 years later God was going to cause Cyrus to allow the Jews that chose to do so to return to the land and rebuild the city of Jerusalem. God also caused Cyrus to give the Jews instructions to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. Here we see that God can even use sinful nations and sinful people to complete His plan. God has determined His plan in advance and nothing will prevent the completion of that plan.

19. Read Isaiah 44:21-28 and write what God said Cyrus would say about the temple.
20. Explain what you learn about the plan and purpose of God from these verses.
21. Explain why you think that God told the people what Cyrus would do long before Cyrus was even born.

The Lord went on to tell the people through Isaiah more about the things that Cyrus would do in the future. God said that He would give Cyrus great power so that He would be able to defeat other nations. Here we see that God had chosen to use Cyrus to complete His plan to allow the Jews to return and rebuild the city of Jerusalem. This was the reason that God was calling Cyrus by name long before he was even born. Even though Cyrus did not know God, God knew Cyrus and called Cyrus by name long before Cyrus was born and even longer before he became the king of the empire of the Medes and the Persians.

22. Read Isaiah 45:1-13 and write what God says about other gods.
23. Explain why God called Cyrus by name and told what he would do long before he became the king of the Medes and the Persians.
24. Explain why you think that the Lord gave great power to Cyrus so that Cyrus would be able to carry out the plan of the Lord.

God said that He is the Lord and that there is no other god besides Him. Here we are reminded again that there is only one true and living God. All other gods are false gods and have no life in themselves. Those false gods are not able to do anything. God is the One who provides for the needs of the people even when they do not know Him. He is the One who made the light and the darkness. He is the One who brings peace. God is also the One who judges those who do evil. Because God is the One who made us, we are not to fight against Him. That would be like a piece of clay speaking to a man and telling that man what kind of a pot to make with the clay.

25. Read Isaiah 45:1-13 and write who God says made the earth.
26. Explain why God compared those in rebellion against Him to a piece of clay speaking to a person and telling a person what kind of a pot to make with the clay.
27. Explain why you think that God spent so much time trying to help the people understand that idols are lifeless and can offer no help.

God is the Creator of the heavens and the earth. He is the One who created all people. He is the One who made all of the stars in the heavens. He is the One who placed each star in its place. Since God is the One who did all of these things, God is the only One who can save us. He is the only One who can protect us from the things that are happening around us. Because God was the One that made us, we know that He will take care of us. This is the reason why we do not need to be afraid. God promised that He would even use a foreign king to complete His purpose.

28. Read Isaiah 45:1-13 and write how God stretched out the heavens.
29. Explain what these verses teach about the protection that the Lord gives to those who place their trust in Him.
30. Explain why you think that it is important to know that God is able to take care of each person that places his or her trust in Christ.

We see a wonderful promise about what will happen when God brings the people of Israel back into their land in the future and shows them His blessings. At that time the people of other

countries will come to the people of Israel and say that they recognize that God is with Israel. In fact the people of Israel will also recognize that God is the only true God. As a result, the people of other nations will also put their trust in God. In that day the people of other nations will be ashamed of the idols that they have made. However, Israel will not be ashamed in that day. Instead Israel will know that God has given them His salvation.

31. Read Isaiah 45:14-25 and write what kind of salvation the Lord gives.

32. Explain why God promises that the day will come when the people throughout the earth will recognize that He is the true God.

33. Explain why you are thankful that God promises that one day the people of Israel will know that God has given them His salvation.

Since God gives everlasting salvation to those who trust in Christ, we can look forward to the fact that our lives will never end because we have placed our trust in Him. This was the purpose of God when He created the earth. God formed the earth and made the earth for a purpose. God put people on the earth for a purpose. The plan and purpose of God was to save a group of people from all nations who would worship and serve Him. It was for this reason that God created the earth and the people that are on the earth. God is now completing His purpose by choosing us to be a part of that group of people who will receive everlasting life.

34. Read Isaiah 45:14-25 and what people do not have when they set up images and worship those images.

35. Explain why the plan and purpose of God before He created the earth was to save a group of people from all nations that would worship and serve Him.

36. Explain why you are thankful that God chose you to be a part of that group that will worship and serve Him.

People who place their trust in idols are praying to gods that cannot save them. In fact their idols cannot even hear them because they have no life. Such people have no knowledge. They have never understood that God is the only One who can help them. They do not realize that God is the only One who can save them from future judgment. This is the reason that God has told us that we should tell others how they can have everlasting life through Christ. Christ is the only one who can give salvation to the people who are still without knowledge of salvation.

37. Read Isaiah 45:14-25 and write what kind of a God He says that He is.

38. Explain what you learn from these verses about the fact that God is the only One that can provide eternal salvation.

39. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that God has chosen you to tell others how they can be saved from eternal judgment.

God does offer salvation to all who will come to Him. That offer is open to people in every part of the earth. God has said that the day will come when every person will bow before Him. Today people have a choice. They can let Christ become the Lord of their lives now and receive eternal life. Otherwise people will be forced to bow before Christ on that day when they are judged. They will have no choice at that time. If people wait until the Day of Judgment to bow before Christ, it will be too late for them to receive eternal life. Instead they will receive eternal judgment.

40. Read Isaiah 45:14-25 and write how we can have righteousness and strength.

41. Explain why both those who worship God and those who reject Him will one day bow before Him.

42. Explain why you are thankful that you bowed your heart before Christ and asked Him to save you so that you will not be forced to bow on the Day of Judgment.

Reread Isaiah 44:1-45:25 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 18
Isaiah 46:1-48:22

Today we will be learning some more about the differences between the true and living God and the idols of men. As we study this lesson, we will see the great power of the Lord. We will also see again that the idols of people have no power at all. As a result, people must take care of their idols instead of the idols helping the people. We will also learn more about the judgment that God promised to the nation of Babylon. We will see that the people of Babylon were depending on astrologers and others who told fortunes to tell them what to do. Finally we will study some more promises that God gave to the nation of Israel.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how great the power of God is in comparison to idols.
- Explain what we learn about the judgment of Babylon.
- Explain what we learn about the promises of God to the nation of Israel.

We have already seen in our study of the book of Isaiah that the people of Israel had turned away from the Lord and were serving idols during the time of Isaiah. Two of the idols that the people were serving were Bel and Nebo. These were the gods that the people in the nations around Israel served. The people of Israel had been told not to marry the people from these foreign nations because God said that the people of these foreign nations would try to get them to serve their idols. That was exactly what had happened when the people of Israel had disobeyed God and married foreign wives. Now God again spoke to the people and begged them to put their trust in Him instead of these idols. God promised the people that He would care for them and help them from the time that they were born until they died if they would trust in Him.

1. Read Isaiah 46:1-13 and write what God said He would do for the people of Israel besides care for them.
2. Explain why the disobedience of Israel by marrying foreign wives led them to also begin to follow their idols.
3. Explain why it is important for you to help other Christians understand the importance of marrying partners that are also Christians.

Here we see that the Lord is able to carry us and deliver us when we place our trust in Him. However, idols cannot help any person. People take gold or silver and make an idol. Then they fall down and worship the idol that they have made. However, that idol cannot help those people. When the people want their idol moved, they must carry the idol. Their idol will only stand if people put it in place and make it stand. When the people pray and cry out to their idol, the idol is not able to hear them or help them. That idol cannot help them when they are in trouble. Here we see that idols cannot help people at all.

4. Read Isaiah 46:1-13 and write what God said about the counsel that the Lord offered to the people.
5. Explain why the people that have their trust in idols should realize that their idols cannot help them when they have to prop up their idol so that it can stand.
6. Explain why you think that many people are deceived by idols that cannot hear and cannot help those who trust in them.

Since God is the only true and living God, what He has spoken is always true. The Word of God will always stand. No one can change that Word. The Lord will do exactly as He has promised. In fact God will even use people from countries that are far away to complete His Word. Because God has spoken, He will bring things to pass exactly as He has said that they

will happen. Now we see that God spoke to Israel and begged them not to be stubborn any longer. God said that He wanted to give salvation to His people. He wanted to save the nation that He had chosen.

7. Read Isaiah 46:1-13 and write what God said that He would place in Zion for the people of Israel.

8. Explain what these verses teach about the idols and false gods that people make to worship.

9. Explain why you think that God begged the people of Israel not to be stubborn any longer.

We go on to read the promise of judgment that the Lord gave about Babylon. Babylon was a very proud nation. However, the Lord said that He would bring Babylon down to the dust. God said that Babylon would no longer be a country when He finished bringing His judgment. We see that God said that He was the One who was going to destroy Babylon. Here we see again that the Lord is in control of all things. Evil people may think that they can do as they choose. They may think that no one can stop them. One day God will say that the Day of Judgment has come. In that day, people and nations will not escape the judgment of God.

10. Read Isaiah 47:1-15 and write what Christ, our Redeemer, is called.

11. Explain how the judgment of Babylon by the Lord should be a reminder to all nations that they cannot stand in the Day of Judgment.

12. Explain why you think that evil people think that they can do as they choose and do not even think about the future.

God goes on to tell about the reason why the nation of Babylon would be judged. God had to punish the nation of Judah because of the sins of the people of Judah. As a result, God would allow Babylon to capture the city of Jerusalem and take the Jews to Babylon. God said that instead of the Babylonians showing kindness and mercy to the Jews that the Babylonians would be very cruel. Here God tells us that one reason He would judge the nation of Babylon was because of the fact that they were so cruel to the Jews. The people of Babylon were living in pleasure. They thought that no one could destroy them. God promised that they would be destroyed in one day when He brought judgment upon them. That was exactly what happened.

13. Read Isaiah 47:1-15 and write what Babylon was trusting for their help.

14. Explain why God said that one of the reasons why He was going to judge the Babylonians was due to the fact that they were so cruel to the Jews.

15. Explain why you think the judgment of the Babylonians should be a reminder for you to show kindness and mercy to others.

The people of Babylon thought that no one could see their evil. They had twisted the truth. Now they were following their own lies. God said that just as they had done evil to others that God would also bring evil upon them. In that day there would not be anything that they could do because that judgment would come suddenly. Then God told them to continue to depend on the things that they had been depending upon. They were told to continue to follow their own knowledge and wisdom. They had been depending on medicine men and those who told fortunes to save them.

16. Read Isaiah 47:1-15 and write who God told the Babylonians to ask to stand and save them.

17. Explain why God warns people that they will reap what they sow and that they will reap judgment very suddenly.

18. Explain why you think that God told the Babylonians to keep depending on their own knowledge and wisdom since they would not depend on the Lord.

Here we see that the Babylonians were depending on people who tried to tell fortunes by looking at the stars. This was the way that they were trying to find out what was going to happen in the future. The devil is the one who has complete control of those who try to tell the future from the stars. At first, the devil may allow these fortune tellers to tell some truth until the people have been tricked and deceived by the devil. Soon, however, these people are

completely deceived and come under the complete control and power of the devil. Then they begin to believe all of the lies of the devil. Such people find that judgment comes quickly and they are not prepared for that judgment. However, at that time it is too late.

19. Read Isaiah 47:1-15 and write how God said the people of Babylon would burn when they faced the fires of judgment.

20. Explain why it is dangerous for people to depend on astrologers and others who tell fortunes.

21. Explain why you think that the devil uses many different kinds of deceivers to trick and deceive people.

The people of Israel and Judah claimed that they worshiped God. They said that God was the One that they served. They said that Jerusalem was the holy city. Although the people claimed to serve God and even offered sacrifices to Him, we learned in the very first chapter of Isaiah that they had not placed their faith and trust in the Lord. Instead they only had an empty religion. Today many people are just like the people in the time of Isaiah. They have developed their own religion and are following it. They may go to church every Sunday. However, they have not placed their trust in Christ and turned to Him in their hearts.

22. Read Isaiah 48:1-11 and write what God said that He knew about the people of Judah.

23. Explain why the people of Judah claimed to serve the Lord even though their hearts were far from the Lord.

24. Explain why you think that God gives a warning to people that have developed their own religion and are following it.

Here we see how hard hearted the people of Israel and Judah really were. God said that their necks were just like iron. When God spoke to them, they did everything possible to rebel against God. As a result, God now told them the reason why He spoke to them about the things that will happen in the future. God said that then it would be impossible for the people to say that their idols and their gods had done miracles. Since God had spoken and told what was going to happen long before it happened, the people had to admit that God had done all things.

25. Read Isaiah 48:1-11 and write why God was waiting to show His anger and judgment against the sins of Judah.

26. Explain what these verses teach about one of the reasons that God gave prophecies to Israel about what would happen in the future.

27. Explain why you think that the people of Israel and Judah had become so hard hearted against God.

God had chosen the nation of Israel to be His chosen nation. Now God said that He would put off the judgment of Judah for His own sake. God loved His people so much that He wanted to give them one more opportunity to turn from their sin before He brought judgment upon them. However, God warned that judgment must come if the people refused to turn from their sins.

God knew that judgment was the only way that He could cause the people to realize the seriousness of their sins so that they would confess their sin to Him and ask for forgiveness.

28. Read Isaiah 48:1-11 and write what kind of a furnace the people of Judah would experience.

29. Explain why God said that He had waited to bring judgment on the people of Judah for their sin.

30. Explain why you think that God told the people of Judah that He would give them one more opportunity to repent before He brought judgment.

After telling why He had delayed judgment, God again begged the Jews to listen as He reminded them of His promises that He had made to their fathers and to them. God is the One who is the first and the last. He is the One that created the earth. God also created all of the stars in the heavens. Since God did all of these things, God is also able to keep all of the promises that He had made to the Jews. He is even able to use foreign nations to complete His will. Here we see again that nothing is too hard for God. He is able to do all things.

31. Read Isaiah 48:12-22 and write who sends the One who has been from the beginning.
32. Explain why God reminded the people of Judah that He was the Creator of all things and could do all things.
33. Explain why you think that God told the people of Judah that He could even use foreign nations to complete His will.

Here we see one of the clearest pictures of the Trinity in the Old Testament. Here we read that it is God the Father and the Holy Spirit who sent Christ to redeem people by shedding His blood on the cross. Christ is also the One who will teach people and lead them in the way that they should go. Here we see a little more about the greatness of Christ. He has always existed with the Father and the Holy Spirit. He came from heaven to pay the penalty for the sins of people. He is the One who teaches people and leads them in the right way.

34. Read Isaiah 48:12-22 and write what kind of peace Christ promises to all those who will obey His commandments.
35. Explain why it is important for every person to understand what God says in His Word about the Trinity.
36. Explain why you think that God says that both the Father and the Holy Spirit sent Christ to redeem people by shedding His blood.

Here we see the way to have peace in our lives. In fact we see that Christ wants us to have a great peace. In order to have that peace we must choose to be obedient to the commands of Christ. Of course we know that it is impossible to be obedient until we have placed our trust in Christ. However, once we have placed our trust in Christ, He promises that as we are obedient to Him that He will give us inner peace. This is a peace that no person can take from us. In fact God said that this peace is a peace that is like a beautiful river. Today people are looking for peace but they cannot find peace through their own efforts. To have that peace they must turn to Christ.

37. Read Isaiah 48:12-22 and write what God said that their righteousness would have been like if they had listened to Him.
38. Explain what you learn about the way to have inner peace that comes from the Lord in these verses.
39. Explain why you realize that the only way you can have inner peace in your own life is to be obedient to the commands of Christ.

Because of the peace that God gives, the people who placed their trust in Christ have something in their lives that causes them to sing. God promised the people of Israel that they could sing and rejoice because of the promises of God even though they had not seen those promises completed yet. In the same way, we can also sing and rejoice in the promises of the Lord. Just as God provided water for the people from a rock when the people of Israel were thirsty in the wilderness, God promised that He will continue to provide for His people in the future. They will receive the peace that only God can give when they place their trust in Him.

40. Read Isaiah 48:12-22 and write who God said will not have peace.
41. Explain why we can be filled with joy and singing because of the promises that the Lord has made to us.
42. Explain why the fact that God provided water from the rock for Israel causes you to realize that you can also trust the Lord to provide your needs.

Reread Isaiah 46:1-48:22 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters today.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 19
Isaiah 49:1-51:23

Today we are beginning a study about Christ and His sufferings. As we begin our study, we will see that Christ came to provide salvation for the Gentile nations just as He came to provide salvation for the nation of Israel. Christ came to give His life so that He could give life to all people if they will turn to Him. As we study the sufferings of Christ, we will see the desire of Christ to do the will of the Father. This should be a real lesson for our own lives. In the final part of our lesson, we will learn about the words of comfort and encouragement that God gave to the people of Israel.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God said that Christ will be a light to the nations.
- Explain what we learn in this lesson about the sufferings of Christ.
- Explain what God said to comfort and encourage Israel.

As we begin to study about the sufferings of Christ, we see that Christ is the One who should receive all praise. Christ is the chosen One of God and it is the desire of the Lord that all people should hear about Him. The nation of Israel had not listened to God when He called them. Later in the time of Christ, most of the Jews refused to place their trust in Christ even though the nation of Israel was the chosen nation of God. At first, it would seem like the death of Christ was wasted because the people refused to place their trust in Him. However, God will complete His work in the world. We will see that God used the rejection of the Jews to give the Gentiles the opportunity to turn to Christ.

1. Read Isaiah 49:1-13 and write what Christ was in the eyes of God even though the nation of Israel did not turn to God at that time.
2. Explain why it is important to understand that the desire of the Lord is that all people should hear about Him.
3. Explain why you think that the rejection of Christ by the Jews provided an opportunity for us as Gentiles to turn to Christ.

Although most of the people of Israel did not turn to Christ when He came to this earth to pay our penalty for sin, God had preserved a group of Jews who put their trust in Christ. In addition, Christ also came to be a light to all of the nations and provide salvation to all those who would place their trust in Him from any nation. As a result, God said that there would even be kings and princes from the other nations that would put their trust in Christ. Christ will accept and help people of all nations that come to Him. He will save them when they place their trust in Him.

4. Read Isaiah 49:1-13 and write what Christ says to all people that are prisoners because they are chained by sin.
5. Explain why it is important to know that the Word of God teaches that Christ came to be a light to all of the nations.
6. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that Christ will accept and help all people of any nation that come to Him.

Here we see that Christ came to set people free from their sin. In addition, God said that Christ will feed all those who become Christians so that they will grow and become strong. Then He will lead and guide them so that they will be able to go in the right way. The Lord will also gather His people from whatever place they may be. Here we see that God gave a special promise for the nation of Israel. God promised that the people of Israel will be regathered from all of the nations where the Lord has scattered them. When this regathering of Israel happens,

- even the earth and the heavens will be filled with joy because God has not forgotten His people.
7. Read Isaiah 49:1-13 and write what the Lord will show to His people that have been afflicted.
 8. Explain why these verses teach that there will be singing and rejoicing when the Lord regathers His people.
 9. Explain why you think that the Lord wants to feed all who become Christians so that they will grow and become spiritually strong.

The Jews thought that the Lord had forgotten them when He allowed foreign nations to punish Israel and Judah for turning away from Him. In actual fact they were being punished because they had turned away from God. They did not realize that they were being punished because of their own sin. God answered the Jews by pointing out the fact that it is impossible for a parent to forget a child. The Jews might forget God but He would never forget them. He had their name written upon His hand. He could not forget them because they were precious to Him. One day God will bring all of the people of Israel back to their land. In that day the land will become a wonderful land. There will be so many people that they will need more room in the land.

10. Read Isaiah 49:14-26 and write what God said that He would set up in that day when He brings the people back.
11. Explain why it is important that God pointed out to the Jews that it is impossible for a parent to forget a child.
12. Explain why it is important for you to know that the Lord will never forget you since you have become His child.

When Christ comes back to rule on this earth, He will set up His kingdom where He will rule. The people of the other nations will lift up the people of Israel in that day. The rulers of the other nations will give Israel the things that the people of Israel need. These other rulers will serve the people of Israel. Everyone will realize in that day that Christ is the Lord. No one will be ashamed of the Lord in that day. Here we see another picture of some of the great changes that will happen on the earth in the day that Christ comes to rule the earth.

13. Read Isaiah 49:14-26 and write what the Lord promises that He will do for the children of Israel in that day.
14. Explain why the desire of the people of the nations will be to help the Jews in the day when Christ rules the earth.
15. Explain how you think that the earth will be different when everyone recognizes that Christ is Lord.

Here we are reminded again that the Lord will never forget the promises that He has made to the nation of Israel. He will judge the nations that have done evil to His people. None of the nations that have done evil to the Jews will escape the judgment of God in that day. These evil nations will be destroyed by the Lord. God will save and preserve the nation of Israel. God will do this so that everyone will know that He is the Savior of Israel. Everyone will know that Christ has redeemed His people with His blood that He shed for all people.

16. Read Isaiah 49:14-26 and write what God said that all flesh will know in that day.
17. Explain what these verses teach about the way that God will take care of His chosen people and preserve them.
18. Explain why it is important to understand that Christ is the Savior and Redeemer of all people.

The Lord went on to point out again that it was the sins of the people of the nation of Israel that would bring judgment upon them. God made it clear that He had not forgotten Israel or given Israel a bill of divorcement. The Jews are still the people of God and He loves them even though they have forgotten Him. The Lord is able to do all things. He is the One who causes

the rivers to become dry. He is the One who makes the skies black in the night. Since God is the One that does these things, He is also able to complete all of His promises. We know that it is through Christ that God is completing His promises. In the rest of this chapter, we see that the Father spoke many other things about what Christ would do.

19. Read Isaiah 50:1-11 and write what kind of a tongue the Father gave to Christ.

20. Explain why God promised the people of Israel that even though it was necessary for Him to judge the disobedient that He would never give Israel a bill of divorcement.

21. Explain why you think that God says that the Jews are still the people of God even though many of the Jews have forgotten God.

Throughout the life of Christ during the time that He was physically living on this earth, we see His great wisdom and knowledge. At the age of twelve, Christ was questioning and teaching the religious leaders of His day. As an adult, Christ spoke a message of life to those who were lost in sin. We also see that Christ never rebelled against the Word of the Father while He was on the earth. Instead Christ obeyed the Father every single moment of every day. Today this is a lesson that we need to learn as Christians. We need to learn to be obedient to the will of the Father. We go on to read about some of the sufferings that Christ experienced.

22. Read Isaiah 50:1-11 and write what happened to the back of Christ when He suffered at the hands of those who killed Him.

23. Explain why it is important to understand that Christ was always obedient to the Father and never sinned while He was here on the earth.

24. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to desire to be obedient to the Lord in all that you do.

Christ was willing to have His back severely beaten because of His love for us. He was willing to let sinful men pull out the hair of His beard because of His love for us. Christ did not try to hide His face when men spit on it. He was willing to suffer all of this pain and shame because of His love for us. God even said that Christ would set His face like a flint. This meant that Christ would let nothing stop Him from completing the will of the Father while He was here on this earth even though it meant suffering and death. He would not turn either to the right or to the left. His only thought and desire was to do the will of the Father.

25. Read Isaiah 50:1-11 and write who we are encouraged to trust.

26. Explain why Christ was willing to experience all of the suffering and mocking that He experienced when He suffered and died for us.

27. Explain why it is important to understand that Christ would let nothing stop Him from completing the will of the Father.

Here we see that Christ gave us a great example for our own lives. We are to fear the Lord and put our trust in Him. We are to obey Him. As we see the suffering of Christ for us, we realize the reason why we should not be afraid to suffer for Him. As we see the determination of Christ to do the will of the Father and not turn to one side or the other, we see a perfect example for our lives. It should be our whole desire to do the will of God in our lives. As we choose to do the will of the Father, we will see Him fulfill the purpose that He has for our lives.

28. Read Isaiah 50:1-11 and write what Christ did not have happen in His life because He had set His face like a flint.

29. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the example of Christ in these verses.

30. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to choose to do the will of God so that He can fulfill the purpose that He has for your life.

God went on to remind the Jews of His promises that He had made to Abraham. God had called Abraham when Abraham did not have any family yet. God told Abraham that a great nation would come from him. God kept that promise and increased the family of Abraham until Israel did become a great nation. Now we see that God promised that He would make the waste

places of Israel so that those places became a beautiful garden. God begged the people of Israel to listen to Him. He begged them to accept the salvation that He was offering to them. Here we see that the desire of the Lord is for His people to place their trust in Him.

31. Read Isaiah 51:1-23 and write how long God said that His salvation would last.

32. Explain why God promised the people of Israel that when they turn to Him that He will make the land of Israel like a beautiful garden.

33. Explain why you think that the Lord begged to people of Israel to accept the salvation that He was offering to them.

God tells us that one day the heavens and the earth will be purged by fire and that He will create a new heavens and a new earth. In that day the heavens will disappear like smoke. The earth will wear out like some old clothes. However, the salvation that God gives to us through Christ will never disappear. That salvation will never wear out. When God gives us the righteousness of Christ, we do not need to worry that we will ever lose His righteousness. Instead we know that the righteousness that God has given us will last forever.

34. Read Isaiah 51:1-23 and write what kind of joy the people of Israel will have when they return to Zion (Jerusalem) with singing.

35. Explain why God says that the heavens will disappear like smoke and the earth will wear out like old clothes.

36. Explain why it is important for you to understand in your own life that the salvation that Christ gives will never come to an end.

Here we see that God promises that He will take away sorrow and sadness from the people of the nation of Israel. God will comfort the people of Israel. They will no longer be afraid of anything. Instead they will trust in the Lord who made the heavens and the earth. God promises that He will put His words in the mouths of the people of Israel. In that day they will speak boldly about Christ. God will protect His people and will care for them. He will hold them in His hands. In that day He will call them His people and they will recognize Him as their God.

37. Read Isaiah 51:1-23 and write what God called for the people of Jerusalem to do in that day.

38. Explain what will happen to the nation of Israel in that day when God says that the people of Israel are His people.

39. Explain why you think that the nation of Israel will be very different in that day when they finally turn to the Lord.

Today Jerusalem is still suffering. Many nations are against the Jews and want to completely destroy Israel. The people of Israel are still receiving the judgment of God because they have not yet turned back to the Lord. However, God gives the Jews some great promises about the future in these chapters. One day He will take away their fear. He will bring an end to their judgment so that they do not suffer any more. Instead of judging Israel any more in that day, God will judge all of the other nations that have done evil to the nation of Israel.

40. Read Isaiah 51:1-23 and write what Christ will do for His people when He has completed their judgment.

41. Explain why it is important for the nation of Israel to understand that God will one day take away their fear.

42. Explain why it is important in your own life to know that you do not need to fear because your trust is in the Lord.

Reread Isaiah 49:1-51:23 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 20
Isaiah 52:1-53:12

Today we will be studying one of the best known chapters in the Old Testament. This chapter tells us much about the suffering and death of Christ as He paid the penalty for our sins and for the sins of the whole earth. Although we may know many things about the death of Christ, there is always more to learn about His death. We will see that Christ took our place and died for us even though He had never committed a single sin. He suffered for us and received our punishment. He experienced all of this suffering without speaking a single word against those who were putting Him to death. Christ did this so that we could have life.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what God says about those who tell others how to have true peace.
- Explain how Christ looked as He suffered on the cross.
- Explain why God said that we are all like sheep.
- Explain how the death of Christ satisfied the holiness of God.

As we begin this lesson, we are given a picture of what Jerusalem will be like in the future. First we see that Jerusalem will be a holy city. Today there is much sin in the city of Jerusalem just as there is much sin in every other city in the world. However, when Christ comes to rule on the earth, the city of Jerusalem will become a holy city instead of a sinful city. Instead of serving the other nations, the people of Israel will serve Christ in that day. The people of Israel sold themselves for nothing when they turned from God and began to worship idols.

1. Read Isaiah 52:1-8 and write how they will be redeemed in the future.
2. Explain how the people of the city of Jerusalem will be changed when Christ comes to rule on the earth.
3. Explain why you think that the God said that people of Israel sold themselves for nothing when they turned from God to worship idols.

To be redeemed means to be bought out of slavery and made free. Because of the sin of Adam, we were all born with a sin nature and were slaves to sin. Sin controls our lives and we cannot stop sinning by our own strength. The blood of Christ that He shed on the cross was the payment to redeem mankind so that we could be set free and no longer be slaves to sin. Here we see that one day the Jews will turn to Christ as a nation and will become holy because they have been made free by the blood of Christ. In the day when Christ gives Israel victory over its enemies, the people will know and recognize the name of Christ. They will realize that Christ is the One who called them out of sin and made them free.

4. Read Isaiah 52:1-8 and write what God says about the feet of those who bring the good news of salvation.
5. Explain why it is important that Christ came to redeem mankind so that we can be set free from our slavery to sin.
6. Explain how you think that the nation of Israel will be changed when they recognize that Christ called them out of their sin and made them free.

Here we see a wonderful promise to all those who bring the message of salvation to the nation of Israel in the future as well as to the people of other nations. In the sight of God, the feet of such people are beautiful. In that day when Christ returns to rule the earth, these messengers will tell everyone that the Lord is ruling. In Romans 10 we also see that today the Lord says that our feet are also beautiful when we tell others how they can receive salvation and have peace. We are living in a world where most of the people are filled with fear. They have no

- peace in their lives. We have been called by the Lord to tell people how to have inner peace.
7. Read Isaiah 52:1-8 and write what the watchmen will do in that day when Israel turns to the Lord.
 8. Explain what these verses teach about the responsibility of every Christian to share the message of salvation and peace with others.
 9. Explain why you think that the Lord says that the feet of those who proclaim the message of salvation are beautiful.

When the Lord brings His people back to Jerusalem and gives them peace, there will be great joy among the Jews. The people will all sing together because the Lord has given comfort to His people. The people will also be filled with joy and sing because Christ has redeemed Israel and set them free from their sins. In that day the people throughout the entire earth will see the holiness of the Lord. Everyone on the earth at the time that Christ begins His rule will also have received the salvation of the Lord. As a result, the whole earth will be filled with joy.

10. Read Isaiah 51:9-15 and write who God said will go before the nation of Israel in that day.
11. Explain why the entire earth will be filled with joy when Christ begins His rule on the earth.
12. Explain why you think that the Lord will give peace and joy to the Jews and to all the people that trust in Him.

God also spoke to the people that are serving Him. First God warned them not to touch anything that is unclean. It is very easy for a Christian to feel that something is only a little sin that will not matter very much. However, God said that we should not touch anything this is unclean. This means that it should be our desire to avoid any form of sin. We are to be clean and pure as we serve the Lord. When we realize that we have sinned, we should confess that sin immediately. We are also told that we do not need to worry because the Lord will go before us. Since God is our protection, we do not need to be afraid of what happens around us.

13. Read Isaiah 52:9-15 and write what happened to the appearance of Christ as He suffered for us.
14. Explain why it should be the desire of all Christians to avoid any form of sin in their lives.
15. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to live a life that is pure and clean as you serve the Lord.

As we begin to study about the death of Christ, we see a real picture of the suffering of Christ for us. Before Christ was put to death on the cross, He received much physical punishment. He was beaten until His back was torn in pieces. He received many cuts on His head from the crown of thorns. He was beaten across the face. Finally He was crucified on the cross. As Christ hung on the cross, He did not even look like a man. Christ was willing to suffer all of these things because He loved you and me very much. He did not care about protecting His own life. Instead He gave His life for others so that we might have life instead of death.

16. Read Isaiah 52:9-15 and write what God the Father promised that He would do for His Son who was willing to be the faithful servant.
17. Explain what you learn about the love of Christ from the things that He suffered for us before His death.
18. Explain what you learn about the depth of the love that Christ showed for you by dying in your place and for your sin.

We go on to learn much more about the suffering and death of Christ as we study what chapter 53 says about His death. We see that God said that Christ was like a tender plant in a dry ground. Dry ground will not usually let many plants grow except those that normally grow in the desert. At the time that Christ was born, most of the people that lived in Judea were not worshiping and serving the Lord. Instead they were following their own desires. Spiritually the people were like dry ground. They were not interested in learning how to have eternal life.

19. Read Isaiah 53:1-6 and write how people felt toward Christ when He came to this earth.

20. Explain why God said that most of the people in the land of Israel were like dry ground at the time that Christ came to this earth.
21. Explain why you think that even today most of the people that have heard about Christ are still not interested in worshipping and serving Him.

When Christ came to this earth and carried out His public ministry, most of the people despised Christ. They hated Christ because the perfect life of Christ showed them how sinful their lives were. Sinful people do not like to have their sins revealed. As a result, most of the people rejected Christ and refused to follow Him. Christ was filled with sorrow as He saw the people reject His offer of eternal life. He also shared in the sorrow and grief of those who were sad. Then Christ turned their sadness into joy. Even though Christ chose to do all of these things, the people as a whole turned their backs on Him and continued to follow their sinful ways.

22. Read Isaiah 53:1-6 and write what Christ carried for us.
23. Explain why sinful people do not like to have their sins revealed by someone who lives a holy life that is pleasing to the Lord.
24. Explain why you think that Christ was filled with sorrow as He saw the people reject His offer of eternal life.

During the time that Christ was on the earth, He healed many who were sick, many who had terrible diseases and even some who had died. Even though many people saw these miracles of Christ, they still refused to put their trust in Him. Instead the people worked together to kill Christ. When Christ was wounded and cut from the beating, it was for our sins. When Christ was hit and slapped on the face, it was for our sins. When Christ died, He died so that we might have peace through the forgiveness of our sins. Christ did all of these things for us because He loved us. He suffered in our place and for our sins. He could do this because He was the only One without sin.

25. Read Isaiah 53:1-6 and write how we are all like sheep.
26. Explain why Christ was willing to be beaten, mocked and hit across the face as He paid the penalty for our sins.
27. Explain why you realize that it was absolutely necessary for Christ to be without sin in order to pay the penalty for our sin.

A sheep is a helpless and dumb animal. Unless someone is always watching the sheep, they will wander away and get lost. Then they will not be able to find their way home. Here we see that we have all gone our own way just like a flock of sheep. We have wandered in sin and did not know how to get out of that sin. As a result, every single person in the world is lost in his or her sin until Christ saves a person. Christ died for each person that is lost in their sin including you and me. When Christ died on the cross, He carried the sins of all people.

28. Read Isaiah 53:1-6 and write who laid all of our sins on Christ as He hung on the cross that day.
29. Explain what you learn about the suffering and death of Christ from these verses.
30. Explain why you think that God chose to compare us to sheep that have gone astray and turned to our way.

When Christ was beaten and the people were mocking Him, Christ did not try to fight. Instead He stood and suffered in silence. He did not even answer a word as the people spoke against him. In the New Testament Christ is called the Lamb of God that who away the sin of the world. A lamb does not fight when people get ready to kill that lamb. Sheep do not fight when people shear the wool off of the sheep. In the same way, Christ stood in silence as He suffered. After Christ was judged and condemned by the people, He was taken outside the city of Jerusalem to die on a cross. He gave His life for the sins of all people.

31. Read Isaiah 53:7-12 and write where these verses say that Christ was buried after His death.
32. Explain why Christ did not fight or even speak a word in anger as He suffered and paid for

our sin.

33. Explain why you think that when John the Baptist introduced Christ in the New Testament that he called Christ the Lamb of God.

We also see that there were two different groups of people near Christ as He died. As Christ hung on the cross, He hung between two very sinful men. These two men were dying on crosses because of their own sins. There were also many other people around Christ that were controlled by sin. At the same time, there were also some followers of Christ. One of these followers of Christ was a rich man by the name of Joseph of Arimathea. He asked Pilate for permission to bury Christ. Then he buried Christ in his own new grave. Christ died and was buried even though He had not done anything wrong. Christ was willing to joyfully give His life to pay the penalty for the sins of mankind.

34. Read Isaiah 53:7-12 and write what happened when the father saw the travail (suffering) of Christ.

35. Explain why God led a rich man by the name of Joseph of Arimathea to bury Christ in his own new tomb.

36. Explain why you think that God allowed Christ to be placed on a cross that was between two very sinful men that were dying for their own sins.

Here we see the reason why it was necessary for Christ to die for our sin. God is a holy God and cannot look at sin. Since God is holy and cannot look at sin, it was necessary for someone who was holy and had no sin to die in order to pay the penalty for the sins of mankind. A person with sin could not have paid that penalty because that person would have just died for his own sin. Christ was the only One who could die and pay the penalty for the sins of mankind because Christ was the only One who had lived on this earth without sinning. As a result, Christ was able to satisfy the requirements of a holy God and pay the penalty for sin.

37. Read Isaiah 53:7-12 and write what Christ did with His soul as He was crucified and put to death.

38. Explain why it was necessary for Christ to die in order to pay the penalty for sin and satisfy the requirement of a holy God.

39. Explain why you think that God required that it had to be a person without sin in order to be able to pay for the sins of others.

By His death on the cross, Christ made it possible for many to be made right with God. Christ had the sins of all the people that have ever lived or will live in the future placed on Him as He died on the cross. As a result, the Father now promises to give all things to Christ. Christ was willing to give everything including His life so that we could have life. He did not hold anything back for Himself. He was willing to die with sinful men and for sinful men. He carried the sins of all of the people on Him as He paid the penalty for sin. We also read that even as Christ was dying He was praying and making intercession to the Father for people.

40. Read Isaiah 53:7-12 and write for whom Christ made intercession as He suffered on the cross.

41. Explain why it is important to know that even as Christ was dying that He was praying and making intercession for the people.

42. Explain why you think that Christ was willing to give everything including His life so that we could have life.

Reread Isaiah 52:1-53:12 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 21
Isaiah 54:1-56:12

Several places in the Old Testament the nation of Israel is called the wife of God. We will be studying one of those chapters in our study today. Even though the nation of Israel had been unfaithful to God and had worshiped idols instead, God promised that He will regather the people and keep all of His promises that He has made to the nation of Israel. We will also learn more about the way that God provides salvation to those who will come to Him. We will see that there is nothing any person can do to earn his or her salvation. Salvation is a free gift from God.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God is called the husband of Israel.
- Explain how God gives us salvation.
- Explain why the Lord promises rewards for obedience.

The people of the nation of Israel were full of sorrow when the people were judged and taken out of their nation. However, that did not cause the people to return to the Lord. Instead they continued to be unfaithful to God. Here we see that God promised the people that the day will come when the people of Israel will be blessed again because they will one day turn back to God and begin to serve Him. In that day God said that He will enlarge the place where the people of Israel will live. Their empty cities will become full of people again. God will take away the fear of the people in that day. They will not be like a widow any more. Instead they will be filled with joy.

1. Read Isaiah 54:1-17 and write who will be the husband of Israel in that day.
2. Explain why God said that He will take away the fear of the people of Israel when they turn back to Him.
3. Explain why you think that the people did not turn back to the Lord in the time of Isaiah even when they were full of sorrow because they had been judged.

Here we see that God is called the husband of Israel. He is the One that chose Israel to be His special nation. Even though Israel was the chosen nation of God, the people of Israel turned away from God and followed idols. Although it has been necessary for God to punish Israel because of the sins of Israel, God promises that He will never forget Israel. God promised that He will regather Israel and again show His love and kindness to the people of Israel. This kindness and mercy will last forever. God said that He will keep His promises to Israel just as He has kept His promise to Noah when He said that He would never destroy the earth with a flood again.

4. Read Isaiah 54:1-17 and write what God promised would not depart from Israel.
5. Explain what you learn about the faithfulness of God from the fact that He promised never to forget Israel regardless of how much the people sinned.
6. Explain what you learn for your own life from the faithfulness that God has shown to you by keeping His promises to you.

Here we see that God will never break His promises that He made to the nation of Israel. God will keep the covenant that He made with Abraham. God tells several things that He will do to keep His promises to Abraham. One day all of the children of the nation of Israel will be taught about the Lord. Everyone will know what the Bible teaches about Christ. The entire nation will have a great peace which no one can take away from them. God is the One who will give them this peace. In that day the entire nation will be holy and serve God in righteousness.

7. Read Isaiah 54:1-17 and write why the people will not have any fear or terror in that day.
8. Explain why God promised that one day the nation of Israel will have a great peace that no one can take away from them.
9. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that one day the entire nation of Israel will turn to the Lord and serve Him in righteousness.

It is true that there will be those who will come to fight against Israel after Christ has ruled on the earth for a thousand years. However, those enemies will come to fight against the Lord and He will send down fire from heaven to destroy them. Here we see that no nation that fights against Israel will prosper or be blessed. God said that He will fight against such nations and destroy them. They will not escape when the Lord brings judgment. God promised that He will condemn everyone that speaks against Israel. This is the promise that God has given to the nation of Israel. God will certainly keep this promise to Israel.

10. Read Isaiah 54:1-17 and write what God says will happen to any weapons that are formed for use against the nation of Israel.
11. Explain the promises that the Lord has given to the nation of Israel in these verses.
12. Explain why you think that God promised that He will judge every person and nation that does evil to the nation of Israel.

The Lord next began to speak about the salvation that He offers to all people. God invites all those who are thirsty to come to Him and He will give them water to drink. Here we are reminded of the offer that Christ gave when He offered the woman of Samaria living water in John 4. God said that people can come to receive this water even though they have no money to pay for the living water that Christ gives. They do not need any money because Christ offers eternal life as a free gift. Today people use their money to buy many things that they hope will satisfy the needs that they have in their lives. However, they are buying the things of this world that cannot satisfy their spiritual hunger. When people listen to Christ, then they will receive the things that are good and worthwhile and do satisfy their spiritual needs.

13. Read Isaiah 55:1-7 and write what kind of a covenant God promises that He will make with us when we place our trust in Him.
14. Explain why God invites all those who are thirsty to come to Him and He will give them water to drink.
15. Explain why you think that God offers living water at no cost to all those who will come to Him for that water.

Today we have many Christians who often worry and think that they will lose their salvation. Here we see one of the many passages that remind such people that they do not need to worry. God says that His covenant is an everlasting covenant. God will never break the promise that He has given. We can be sure of our salvation. Through the family of David came the One who made our salvation certain. Christ came from the family of David. He paid the penalty for our sins. Now we know that we have eternal life when we place our trust in Christ.

16. Read Isaiah 55:1-7 and write when people are told to seek the Lord.
17. Explain why it is important to know that the covenant that God made offering salvation is an everlasting covenant.
18. Explain what you are thankful for the fact that you do not have to be fearful about losing the eternal life that God has promised to you.

Here we see that there is a right time to seek the Lord and call upon Him. The time to seek the Lord and call on Him to save is right now. Many people think that they can wait until some other time to call upon the Lord. They say that they will wait until tomorrow or next year. Here we see that the time to call is now because no person knows if he or she will ever have another opportunity to turn to the Lord. As Christians, we need to help people realize that they need to become Christians now while they have the opportunity. Otherwise it may be too late.

19. Read Isaiah 55:1-7 and write what God promises to the wicked and the unrighteous if they will return to the Lord.
20. Explain how to help a person realize that he or she should become a Christian now while the opportunity is available.
21. Explain why you realize that it is important to encourage people to turn to the Lord while they have the opportunity and not to wait.

We also read that the Lord encourages the wicked person to turn from his evil way and turn to the Lord. It does not matter how sinful a person may be. God will still show His love and mercy and His pardon to any person that will come to God and ask God to forgive his sin. Here we see that the Lord thinks in a much different way than most people think. Most people would probably refuse to forgive a person that they think is very sinful especially if that person has sinned against them. However, God will forgive all people because His thoughts and His ways are greater than our thoughts and our ways and are much higher than our thoughts and ways.

22. Read Isaiah 55:8-13 and write what God said will happen to the words that go out of His mouth.

23. Explain why the fact that the thoughts and the ways of God are much higher than our thoughts and ways explain why God will forgive even the most sinful person.

24. Explain why you are thankful to know that God pardoned you from the consequences of your sin at the very moment that you placed your trust in Christ.

The Word of God is like the rain. God causes the rain to fall to the earth and water the earth. This causes the earth to bring forth good crops. As a result, the food that we need is produced. Then the water evaporates and returns to the clouds. The Word of God works the same way. When we speak the Word of God to others, the Word of God will work in the person who hears that Word. The Word of God does complete His purpose in the life of each person that really hears His Word. This is the reason why it is so important for us to speak the Word of God instead of speaking our own words when we speak to others about Christ.

25. Read Isaiah 55:8-13 and write how we should go out and speak to others since these things are true about the Word of God.

26. Explain why it is important to know that the Word of God will always accomplish the purpose that God has for that Word if we will just share that Word with others.

27. Explain why you are thankful that God promises that His Word will never return to Him void but it will always accomplish what He pleases.

Since we know that the Word of God will complete the purpose of God, we should be filled with joy as we speak the Word of God to others. Lives will be changed by the Word. Then there will be joy and singing both on earth and also in heaven. Instead of a wasted, empty life that is like a thorn or a brier, God will produce a life that is like a fruitful tree. It is through the Word of God that Christ changes individuals and groups of people when those people place their trust in Him. Such people are given eternal life that will never end.

28. Read Isaiah 55:8-13 and write what kinds of trees the Lord said would come up instead of briars and thorns.

29. Explain why it is important to speak the Word of God and not our words when we share the Gospel with others.

30. Explain why you are thankful to know that God will work through the sharing of His Word to accomplish His purposes on this earth.

We go on to read more about the results of obedience and the results of disobedience. Those who are obedient to God are promised rewards. God says that He will bless those who do what is right. This blessing will be for all those who hear the Word of God and turn from their evil to follow the Lord. Those people will receive this blessing whether they are Jews or people from other nations. They will receive these blessings even if they are eunuchs. A eunuch is a man

who is not able to have children. However, such a person can certainly receive eternal life.

31. Read Isaiah 56:1-12 and write what the eunuchs will not need to say.

32. Explain why God promises to bless and give rewards to those who choose to be obedient to Him.

33. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to be obedient to the Word of God and not just hear the Word.

In the time that Isaiah wrote this book, the men wanted to have a son who would carry on the family name. Since a eunuch could not have children, he had no one to carry on his name or receive his inheritance. Here God gives the eunuchs a wonderful promise. If they put their trust in the Lord, they will not need children to carry on their name. If they have placed their trust in Christ, they have received eternal life and now have a name that will last forever. Their lives will not be cut off or destroyed. Instead they will continue to live forever because of the promise that God has given them.

34. Read Isaiah 56:1-12 and write what promise God gives to the sons of the foreigners that join themselves to the Lord.

35. Explain why it was important for those who were eunuchs to know that their name will last forever if they have placed their trust in Christ.

36. Explain why you think that God gave this special message of encouragement to those who were not able to have children.

Here we see again that God offers eternal life to all people whether they are Jews or people from other nations. People of all nations who will put their trust in the Lord and serve Him will receive eternal life. They will be accepted into the family of God. God invites people of all races to come to Him in prayer. His house is a house of prayer for all people. God is calling people to Himself from every ethnic group and tribe of people. Here we see why it is our responsibility to share the Gospel with people of all nations and tribes. Only as we share the Gospel with others will they know how to have eternal life.

37. Read Isaiah 56:1-12 and write what God said that the watchmen of Judah were like in the day of Isaiah.

38. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that God offers salvation to people of all tribes and ethnic groups.

39. Explain why you think that God said that His house is a house of prayer for the people of all nations.

Our study of this chapter concludes with a warning to all those who choose not to follow Christ. The day will come when they will be judged. God told us about the watchmen who were supposed to warn the people of Israel of the danger of sin. In the time of Isaiah, the watchmen were blinded by their own sin so that they could not warn the others. God compared them to dumb dogs. They were not warning people about the danger that they faced. Instead they were sleeping and satisfying themselves. They wanted more for themselves and were not concerned about others. They could not understand. They were only looking out for themselves.

40. Read Isaiah 56:1-12 and write whose gain they were seeking.

41. Explain why God said that the watchmen of Israel were not concerned about others but were only looking out for themselves.

42. Explain why you think that God compared the watchmen of Judah to dumb dogs.

Reread Isaiah 54:1-56:12 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 22
Isaiah 57:1-59:21

One of the things that can cause a nation or group of people to turn away from God very quickly is a group of leaders who do not trust and serve the Lord. This was one of the problems that was faced by the people of Israel. The people were following leaders who led them in the wrong way. In our study today we will learn what God said to these false leaders who had led the people away from the Lord. We will also learn what God said about the right reasons and the wrong reasons fast. When people fast for the wrong reasons, they are wasting their efforts and their fasting means nothing. Finally we will learn about the terrible results of sin.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what God says about those who follow idols.
- Explain what God said about the right reasons and the wrong reasons to fast.
- Explain what God said about the consequences of sin.
- Explain how God searches for people.

As we begin our study today, we see that God compared the wicked people with the people that were right with God. Although this was a real picture of the people in the time of Isaiah, we see that it is also a real picture of the people living today. Today most people do not show any interest when a person commits his life to doing the things that are pleasing to the Lord. However, we see that God watches over those people who commit their lives to the work of the Lord. They may die a physical death for the Lord but they have been promised eternal life. God protects those who follow Him from coming judgment and also gives them peace in their lives today. However, those who follow the ways of sin will be judged. Such people worship idols. They kill. They offer sacrifices to the rocks.

1. Read Isaiah 57:1-21 and write where those who follow idols set their bed and offer sacrifices.
2. Explain why it is important to understand why God compared the wicked people with the people that are right with God.
3. Explain why you think that most people today are not interested in committing their lives to the Lord.

God said that the people had set up their idols right inside their houses. They thought that the doors of their houses would hide their idols from the Lord. The people had also given their riches and their possessions to these idols. Today people still do the same things. They are still using their money and their possessions for the things that they worship. Many people still spend much money to hire a medicine man to do a sing or to hire an astrologer to tell them about their future. Here we see that the devil still uses the same deceptions that he used in the time of the Old Testament. He still wants to get people to let him control their money and possessions.

4. Read Isaiah 57:1-21 and write where the people sent messengers to get ointments and perfumes for their idols.
5. Explain why Satan wants to get people to let him control their money and their possessions.
6. Explain why you think that the people thought that they were hiding their idols from God when they set them up inside their houses.

Here we see that in the time of Isaiah that the people would do many things in an effort to try and please their idols. Even though the idols could not help the people, the people still failed to realize that their idols did not offer them any help or any hope. The people trusted those idols

and did not even think about the Lord. God said that He would not protect the people when they called to Him. Only those who placed their trust in the Lord would be protected. Today we still have many people who only think about God when they are in danger. As soon as the danger is gone, they quickly forget about God.

7. Read Isaiah 57:1-21 and write what God said that the wicked are like.

8. Explain why many people do not realize that lifeless idols can offer them no hope for the future.

9. Explain why you think that the people were doing many things in an effort to try and please idols that could neither see them or hear them.

The people that do not have their trust in the Lord do not have inner peace. Instead their lives are filled with turmoil. Only those who place their trust in Christ will experience the inner peace that only the Lord can give. Only those who realize that they have sinned and ask Christ to forgive them can come to God. However, God promised that He will give life to all those who come to Him. God also promised to lead and comfort those who turn to Him from their sinful ways. Christ also promises that He will give inner peace to those who place their trust in Him. Today many people talk about peace but have no idea how to experience that peace.

10. Read Isaiah 57:1-21 and write what God said that the wicked do not experience in their lives.

11. Explain what these verses teach about the way to have inner peace.

12. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to have the inner peace that comes from depending on the Lord moment by moment.

Although the people were not worshiping and serving the Lord, some of them would still fast and go without food. Now these people asked God why He did not answer them or see their fasting. Here we see that there is a right purpose and a wrong purpose for fasting. The people in that day were fasting for the wrong purpose. Their hearts were not right with the Lord as they fasted. Instead they were only trying to satisfy themselves as they fasted. Even though they were going without food, they were only thinking about their own desires. They even made their hired workers work extra hard to make up for the work that they were not doing.

13. Read Isaiah 58:1-14 and write why God said that the people were really fasting.

14. Explain why many people that fast are only fasting in an effort to try and please themselves.

15. Explain why you think that it is important for a person to know why he does what he does whether it is fasting or anything else.

Here we see that the people were fighting and doing evil at the very time that they were fasting. They were not fasting so that they could spend extra time in prayer. They were not fasting so they could confess the sin in their lives. Instead they thought that fasting would cause God to do what they wanted Him to do. Today some people ask whether we should fast in our day. Here we see that it will do no good to fast if we are not fasting for the right purpose. However, we also know that there are some good reasons for fasting. If we are fasting for those reasons, then we will be blessed by God.

16. Read Isaiah 58:1-14 and write what kind of an attitude a person should have when that person is fasting for the right reasons.

17. Explain why some people think that doing religious activities like fasting will cause God to do what they want Him to do.

18. Explain why you think that God wants us to understand that there are both wrong reasons and good reasons for fasting.

Here we see the attitude that we should have in our heart when we fast. We should have an attitude of humility rather than pride. We see that one purpose for fasting is to loose the bands of wickedness and free people from their sins. This means that we should choose to go without eating for a period of time so that we can spend extra time praying for those who are bound by

sin. We also see that we should fast so that we can be more effective as we help others. When we fast for these purposes, we will see that the Lord gives wonderful results. Others will also see the light of Christ in our lives. As a result, their lives will be changed. We can also look forward to the fact that the Lord will answer our prayers as we fast with a humble attitude.

19. Read Isaiah 58:1-14 and write what God promised to those who walk in righteousness when they call on the Lord.

20. Explain what you learn about the attitude that a person should have when that person is fasting.

21. Explain what you think are several good reasons why Christians should be willing to fast.

God also went on to promise that He will do many other things as people truly trust Him from their hearts. He will answer our prayers. He will supply our needs. He will give us light. He will guide us so that we will go in the right way. He will give us His strength. God also promised that He will rebuild the things that have been destroyed. God said that He will do all these things when people place the Lord first in their lives and honor Him. Here we see why it is so important to put the Lord first in our own lives instead of trying to please and satisfy ourselves.

22. Read Isaiah 58:1-14 and write what God promised that He will cause to happen to us when we delight ourselves in the Lord.

23. Explain why it is important for Christians to realize that the Lord will give them His strength when they have their trust in Him.

24. Explain why you think that it is important to know that God will guide you in the right way as you trust in Him.

As we begin chapter fifty-nine, we see what God says separates people from the Lord. God said that our sins have separated us from God. Because of our sin, it was necessary for God to hide His face from us because God is a holy God and cannot look with favor at sin. However, we know that God will hear and save everyone who will put their trust in Him. We also see several other ways that the people of today are like the people in the time of Isaiah. People do not want to do what is right. Instead everyone is quick to sin. People lie and deceive others. They think of evil things to do. They do not ask for the right things to be done. In fact they do not even want to hear the truth.

25. Read Isaiah 59:1-14 and write where people go with their feet.

26. Explain why it is important for people to realize that it is their sins that have separated them from the Lord.

27. Explain why you think that many people do not want to hear the truth or change from following their sins.

Here we see a real picture of the evil of sinful people. We see that they are actually looking for evil things to do. When people hear about evil, God said that they run to become a part of that evil. They are willing to kill innocent people who try to stop them from their evil actions.

Their minds are also controlled by sin. All that they think about is an opportunity to do more evil. They do not know the way to have peace. Since they know nothing about peace, they cannot help other people find peace. Here we see the terrible condition of people who do not know Christ. They cannot help themselves and they cannot help anyone else.

28. Read Isaiah 59:1-14 and write what God said that the people were walking in even though they said they were looking for the light.

29. Explain why evil people are totally unable to help anyone else.

30. Explain why you think that the actions of people will be evil when their minds are controlled by sin.

Because of our sin, we were also like blind people until we followed Christ. People that have not placed their trust in Christ do not know the way to go. They walk and stumble like people

that cannot see. This happens in the day as well as during the night. They are like dead men. In fact they are spiritually dead because of their sin. They do not understand what it means to have life. Their sins speak against them. They deny the Lord. They have turned away from God. Instead of speaking the truth, they speak lying words. They have gone a long way from what is just and right.

31. Read Isaiah 59:1-14 and write what God said had happened to the truth.

32. Explain why spiritual blindness will prevent people from knowing the way that they should go.

33. Explain why you think that most people without Christ do not understand that they are spiritually dead.

When people do not speak the truth, they will begin to do evil to those who do speak the truth. This is the reason that sinful men killed Christ. As God saw the sinfulness of mankind, He was very unhappy. God looked for a man that was a righteous man that could speak for Him to others. However, there was not a single man who could intercede (speak to God for other people). As a result, it was necessary for God to send His own Son to speak and intercede for sinful people. Christ was sent by the Father for two reasons. First, He came to offer salvation. All those who accept that salvation will receive eternal life. However, when Christ comes the second time, He will come as a judge to judge those who rejected that salvation.

34. Read Isaiah 59:15-21 and write how God will repay those sinful people.

35. Explain why it was necessary for God to send His own Son to speak and intercede for people.

36. Explain why you think that it is important to help people understand the second time that Christ comes that He will come as a judge.

Here we see that when Christ comes to judge that God will repay sinful men according to their sins. When the people that have rejected the salvation that Christ provided stand before God, those people will be judged by the things that they have done. Then God will repay them according to the evil that they have done. As a result, people from the east and the west will fear and trust the Lord. Then we have a wonderful promise for us today. When the enemy comes in like a flood, God is still in control. He is the One who tells what is right and wrong. We do not need to be afraid. Christ is in control and He will have victory.

37. Read Isaiah 59:15-21 and write who will lift up a standard against them when the enemy comes in like a flood.

38. Explain why we should be filled with joy even though we see much evil happening around us.

39. Explain why it is important to help people who are not Christians to realize that they will be judged according to their sinful works.

Christ has come and is the Redeemer of all those who place their trust in Him. A redeemer is one who pays the penalty for another. The penalty for sin was paid in full by Christ. Christ satisfied the requirements of the law of God when He completely and fully paid the penalty for sin by His death on the cross. We also read that Christ will be a Redeemer for Zion (Jerusalem). In that day He will take away the sin of Israel. This will happen when Christ returns to rule on the earth. At that time all of the Jews will place their trust in Christ. At that time, the Word of God will be in the mouth of every Jew.

40. Read Isaiah 59:15-21 and write how long the Word of God will be in the mouth of the Jews when that happens.

41. Explain why it was necessary for Christ to come and satisfy the requirements of the law of God by paying the penalty for sin.

42. Explain why you think that God promises that one day in the future that all of the Jews will place their trust in Christ.

Reread Isaiah 57:1-59:21 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 23
Isaiah 60:1-61:11

In this lesson we will be studying some more prophecies about what will happen to Israel in the future when Christ rules on the earth. The period just before Christ comes to rule on the earth will be a very dark time for the nation of Israel. Many other nations will try to destroy Israel. The Jews will have much persecution. However, when Christ comes to rule, everything will be changed. Then the nation of Israel will become a light to the other nations. The people of the other nations will bring great gifts to Israel. In that day Israel will be the leading nation in the world.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why Israel is called a light to the nations.
- Tell about the changes that will happen when Christ rules on the earth.
- Explain why the first and the second coming of Christ are mentioned together.
- Explain why Israel will be the most important nation when Christ rules.

In our last lesson, we learned that Christ would be the Redeemer of the entire nation of Israel. No one else was qualified to be that Redeemer. Christ satisfied all of the requirements of the law so that people could be set free from their sin. We also said that all of the Jews will place their trust in Christ in that day when Christ comes back to rule on the earth. Today we will see what will happen when Christ comes back to begin His rule on the earth. That will be a day of great rejoicing because Christ will come back to be the Light of the world. In fact when Christ came the first time He said that He is the Light of the world.

1. Read Isaiah 60:1-14 and write what the nations (Gentiles) will do when Christ comes to be the Light.
2. Explain why it is important that Christ came to be a Light to both the Jews and the Gentiles.
3. Explain why you think that it was possible for Christ to satisfy all of the requirements of the law so that we could be set free from our sin.

We also see that Israel is called a light to the nations. This is due to the fact that the people of Israel will be speaking to the people of the nations about Christ, the Light of the world. There will also be another great change in that day. Today most of the nations of the world hate the Jews. Through the years many nations have tried to destroy the Jews. In the day when Christ comes to rule, all that will be changed. Instead of trying to destroy the Jews any longer, all of the nations will help the Jews. They will bring gifts from many countries to the nation of Israel. Some people will bring animals to the people of Israel. Others will bring gold and other possessions to give to the people of Israel.

4. Read Isaiah 60:1-14 and write where ships will come from to bring gold and silver to the nation of Israel.
5. Explain why God is going to change the attitude of the people of the world toward the Jews when Christ comes to rule.
6. Explain why you think that people of many nations will want to bring gifts to the people of Israel in the time that Christ rules.

The ships of Tarshish will come to the Jews and bring silver and gold to the nation of Israel from many different places. The people of the other nations will do this because the name of the Lord will be lifted up and everyone will be thankful to the Lord in that day. The people of the other nations will help rebuild the nation of Israel. Their kings will choose to serve Israel. Just as God judged the people of Israel because of their sin, in that day God will show His love and kindness to the people of Israel because they have placed their trust in Him. The people of

Israel will not need to be afraid any longer. Instead the gates of the cities will be open so that the people of other nations can bring their gifts to Israel at any time.

7. Read Isaiah 60:1-14 and write what will happen to the nation that will not serve Israel in that day.

8. Explain why God will rejoice because of the fact that He can show His love and kindness to the people of Israel in the day when Christ rules.

9. Explain why you think that the people of all nations will want to lift up the name of the Lord when Christ rules on the earth.

God said that the nations that will not serve Israel in that day will be destroyed. Nothing will be left of those nations. Israel will receive the riches of the other nations. The trees of Lebanon will be used to make the temple in Jerusalem beautiful. The nations that once hated Israel will bow down and want to serve the people of Israel in that day. Everyone will realize that the people of Israel are the chosen people of God. The nations will call Jerusalem the city of God. That is why they will want to come and bring their gifts to the Lord.

10. Read Isaiah 60:1-14 and write the other name that is given to Jerusalem in addition to the city of God.

11. Explain how the other nations will feel toward the nation of Israel during the time when Christ rules on the earth.

12. Explain why you think that God will change the hatred of the nations toward Israel into a desire to serve the people of Israel.

We have seen some of the great changes that the Lord can make in a person. Here we see that the Lord is able to make great changes in the people that will be living throughout the earth.

People will show kindness instead of hatred to the people of Israel. We see that people of all nations will help the people of Israel. Then all of the Jews will know that Christ is the Lord.

They will all realize that Christ is the One who has made them free and has given them life.

This will also cause them to realize that the Lord has the power both to save and to keep them.

13. Read Isaiah 60:15-22 and write what God will give to the Jews instead of brass (bronze) and iron.

14. Explain how the Jews will be changed when they finally realize that Christ is the One that has given them life.

15. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to know that Christ will keep you as well as save you.

Here we see that it is the Lord who will cause the nation of Israel to receive great riches and blessing from the other nations. It is the Lord who will give them peace. The Lord is also the One who will take away violence and evil from their land. He will stop other people from destroying the land of Israel. Here we see again that the Lord is the One that is in control of all things. He will allow evil people to carry out their evil deeds for only a certain amount of time. Then God will stop evil people from completing their plans. Here we see that God will stop people from doing evil to the nation of Israel any more. Instead God will give them a lasting peace that will not be destroyed.

16. Read Isaiah 60:15-22 and write what kind of a light the Lord promises to be to the nation of Israel.

17. Explain why the earth will be very different when the Lord takes away the violence and evil of the people.

18. Explain why you think that the people on the earth will experience ideal conditions during the time that Christ rules on the earth.

Here we see that this prophecy in the book of Isaiah even looks past the time when Christ will rule on the earth. Here God used Isaiah to tell us of the fact that Christ will be an everlasting light. When we enter eternity, we will not need the sun or the moon any more. Instead Christ

will be our light. Even during the time that Christ is ruling on the earth, Israel will experience great blessing. Their sorrow will be taken away. The people will do what is right. No one will take away their land. Their families will be blessed and become great. This is a reminder again that God will never forget the promises that He has made to the nation of Israel.

19. Read Isaiah 60:15-22 and write who will be glorified because of the changes that Christ will make on the earth.

20. Explain how the Lord says that He will bless the nation of Israel when Christ rules on the earth.

21. Explain why the entire earth and especially the nation of Israel will be filled with the blessing of the Lord when Christ rules.

As we come to the first part of chapter sixty-one, we read about some things that Christ said were completed at the first coming of Christ to the earth. However, Christ stopped in the middle of a sentence and said that only the first part of the sentence had been completed. As a result of what Christ had said, the Jews tried to throw Christ off a cliff and kill Him. This is mentioned in Luke 4. Christ stopped after He had read that He came to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. That was due to the fact that He did not fulfill the rest of the sentence at that time.

22. Read Isaiah 61:1-3 and write what the verse says immediately after the place where Christ stopped reading.

23. Explain when Christ will fulfill the second part of the statement given in Isaiah 61:2.

24. Explain why you think that Christ stopped in the middle of the sentence when He read this passage in the synagogue.

Here we see that Christ will one day come again and that day will be called a day of vengeance because it will be a day of judgment. This will happen when Christ returns to rule on the earth. Christ will judge all those who are evil in that day. He will comfort all of those who have been persecuted because they are serving Him. Then the Jews will be filled with joy instead of sadness. They will be filled with praise to the Lord. They will be right with the Lord and will cause others to give glory to the Lord. All of these things will happen when Christ returns the second time to rule on the earth. However, Christ also completed several promises in these verses the first time that He came to the earth.

25. Read Isaiah 61:1-3 and write the first thing that these verses say that Christ came to do when He came the first time.

26. Explain why the Jews and all those who serve the Lord can look forward to the time when Christ will rule on the earth.

27. Explain why you think that the Jews will lead the people of the entire earth in giving glory to the Lord when Christ returns to rule.

Here we see that the first thing Christ came to do when He came to this earth was to preach the good news of salvation. This is the message that people still need today. That message will give comfort to those who are brokenhearted. It is a message of freedom to those who have been slaves to sin. Once a person becomes a Christian, he or she is no longer a slave to sin. Instead that person has been set free by Christ. Here we see that Christ came to give life the first time that He came. He will come as a judge when He comes again.

28. Read Isaiah 61:1-3 and write what the Lord will give to those who mourn in Zion when He comes to rule.

29. Explain why it is important to understand that Christ came to comfort those who were brokenhearted and to set the prisoners free when He came the first time.

30. Explain why you think that Isaiah spoke of both the first and the second coming of Christ at the same time.

When Christ comes back to rule on this earth, Israel will be His special nation in that day. The

people of the other nations will rebuild the old cities that have been destroyed. The cities that have been destroyed and empty for many years will then become busy again because they will be rebuilt by the people from other countries. Strangers from other nations will also care for the flocks of Israel. Foreigners will also farm their land and care for the vineyards of the people of Israel in that day. Here we see that the people of the nations will want to serve the people of Israel.

31. Read Isaiah 61:4-11 and write what the people of Israel will be called in that day.

32. Explain what the nation of Israel will be like during the time that Christ rules on the earth.

33. Explain why you think that many people from other nations will want to serve Israel when Christ rules.

Here we see that the people of Israel will have a great privilege during the time that Christ rules on the earth. Other people will work for them so that they can spend all of their time leading the people of the other nations to worship and serve the Lord. Today all Christians are also called to be priests of God. The main responsibility of every Christian today is to lead other people to worship and serve the Lord. This is a great privilege that the Lord has given us so we should not want to let anything hinder us or keep us from serving the Lord. We should realize that we have a great privilege to be faithful priests today just as the people of Israel will be when Christ rules on the earth.

34. Read Isaiah 61:4-11 and write what kind of joy God will give to the people of Israel beginning in that time.

35. Explain why it is important that the people of Israel will lead the people of the earth in worship and service to the Lord when Christ rules.

36. Explain why you think that it is a great privilege for each of us as Christians to lead others to worship and serve the Lord today.

Instead of sorrow and shame, the people of Israel will receive a double blessing from the Lord. As a result, the people will shout for joy as they see the blessing of the Lord. God will reward and bless them because He loves justice. God will do this because He made a covenant or agreement with Abraham that will last forever. God will never break that promise. He will cause the people of Israel to be a blessing to all people of all nations. The people of other nations will also recognize the fact that the Jews have been blessed by the Lord.

37. Read Isaiah 61:4-11 and write what the people of Israel will do with the food that they gather when Christ rules.

38. Explain why God promised the Jews that one day the people will have joy that will last forever.

39. Explain why you think that the Lord will cause the people of Israel to be a blessing to the people of all nations when Christ rules.

As we see all of the things that the Lord said that He is going to do in the future, we should feel the same way that Isaiah felt when he heard these words. Isaiah was filled with joy. He was rejoicing because of the things that he knew that the Lord would do for the nation of Israel as well as for the people of the entire earth. God has also provided us with His salvation. When we stand before God, we will be without sin because we have received the righteousness of Christ to cover and take away our sins. Since Christ is holy and perfect, we are able to stand before God as those who are holy and perfect. As God looks at us, He will see the holiness and perfection of Christ.

40. Read Isaiah 61:4-11 and write what God will cause to spring forth before all of the nations in that day.

41. Explain why Isaiah was filled with joy and rejoicing when he heard what the Lord was going to do for Israel in the future.

42. Explain why you are thankful that the Father will see the holiness and perfection of Christ when you stand before God.

Reread Isaiah 60:1-61:11 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 24
Isaiah 62:1-64:12

In this lesson we will learn a little more about the great love that God has for the nation of Israel. God promised that He will not rest until He has brought the nation of Israel back into the place of blessing. Here we see that God is a holy God and must judge sin. However, it causes great sorrow to God to have to judge His people. We also see the concern that Isaiah had for his people. Isaiah was sad as he thought of the fact that it was necessary for the Lord to judge His people. At the same time we see that even though most of the people had turned away from the Lord, there was still a small group that prayed for God to deliver them. Isaiah was a part of this small group.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God will not rest until the people of Israel are back in their land.
- Explain why God must judge the nations.
- Tell about the concern of Isaiah for his people.
- Tell about the prayer of the small group who still trusted the Lord.

Although it was necessary for the Lord to judge the nation of Israel, God said that He will not have peace and rest until He brings the people of Israel back into their land. Here we see a real picture of the love and concern of God for the nation of Israel. God loves the people of Israel with a very great love. However, we have seen that God is a holy God and must punish the people of Israel because God cannot look with approval at sin. Here we see that the punishment hurt God more than it hurt Israel because of the love of God for Israel. God is waiting eagerly for the day when Israel will return to Him and begin to serve Him again.

1. Read Isaiah 62:1-12 and write what kind of a name Israel will receive in that day when they return to the Lord.
2. Explain why God said that He will not have peace and rest until He brings the people of Israel back into their land.
3. Explain why you think that it hurts God greatly to have to punish the people of Israel for their sin.

Here we see that God promised that He will give a new name to Israel in that day. This name will be chosen by the Lord. In that day Israel will be like a beautiful crown for the Lord. The land will no longer be forsaken and empty. Instead the people of Israel will be a delight to the Lord. God said that in that day He will be a husband to the nation of Israel. God will be filled with joy because in that day Israel will be a faithful wife. Here again we see a picture of the joy that God will have in that day when the people of Israel turn from their idols to serve Him.

4. Read Isaiah 62:1-12 and write what God said that He will set on the walls of Jerusalem in that day.
5. Explain why God says that He will be filled with joy in the day that Israel becomes a faithful wife.
6. Explain why you think that the Lord is so eager for the people of Israel to turn to Him and serve Him.

In the day when Christ rules the earth, the watchmen of Jerusalem will continually speak about Christ. In the same way, it should be our desire to be speaking for Christ at all times. In the day when Jerusalem will be ruled by the Lord, people from throughout the earth will speak praises about Jerusalem. Christ will protect His chosen land. No one will steal the food from the land. Instead the Jews will be able to eat their own food. Those who have gathered things together will be able to enjoy eating their food in the house of the Lord.

7. Read Isaiah 62:1-12 and write what God will call His people in the day that He again blesses them.
8. Explain why the watchmen of Jerusalem will be continually speaking about Christ when He rules on the earth.
9. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord gives you the opportunity to speak about Christ to others today.

Since the Lord will be bringing His people back into the land, a way must be prepared for them to come. The Lord will set up His standard to lead His people over the highway of the Lord. The Lord will send out a message to the ends of the earth that He has come to bring salvation to His people. When Christ comes in that day, He will bring a reward for His people. The people of Israel will also be called the holy people. Everyone will speak of the fact that the people of Israel are the redeemed of the Lord. The people of the other nations will realize that God has not forsaken His people.

10. Read Isaiah 62:1-12 and write what the city of Jerusalem will be called in that day when Christ comes back to rule.
11. Explain why the Lord said to prepare a highway for His people to return to the land in that day.
12. Explain why you think that Christ wants the message that He has come to bring salvation to His people proclaimed to the ends of the earth.

We have mentioned several times that in that day Christ will come as a judge to judge all those who have rebelled against Him. Today we will see a picture of what Christ will look like as a judge. When Christ comes, we read that His clothes will be red. His clothes will look as though He has been walking on grapes and crushing the juice out of the grapes. God goes on to tell us why the clothes of Christ will be red. In that day we see that Christ will have been judging evil and showing the anger of God against sin. He will have rewarded evil people for their sinful deeds.

13. Read Isaiah 63:1-6 and write what God said will have caused the red stains on the clothes of Christ.
14. Explain why it will be necessary for Christ to judge all evil when He comes to the earth to rule.
15. Explain why you think that all sin in every period of time in history must be judged.

Here we see a real picture of the high cost of sin. The result of sin is death. People will die here on this earth. Then they will face the final judgment where they will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone to burn forever. The clothes of Christ will be stained with the blood of those who are judged by physical death when Christ returns to the earth. That day will be a day of vengeance and judgment. God has waited a long time before bring this judgment. However, when this judgment comes, it will be a terrible judgment.

16. Read Isaiah 63:1-6 and write what year it will be when Christ judges the evil people of the earth.
17. Explain why the final consequence for all those who reject Christ will be eternal judgment in the lake of fire and brimstone.
18. Explain why you think that it is important for you to help people to realize that they must make the choice to choose life if they want eternal life.

Here we see that the judgment of one group of people will be a time of joy for a different group of people. During the seven years before this judgment of the ungodly, those who follow the Lord will receive much persecution and will suffer much from the evil people of the world. However, the Lord will bring judgment on all those who are evil and will bring joy to all those who serve Him. Even though the people of the earth will not have helped the people of God, the Lord will help His people. God will destroy all of those who have done evil to His people. The blood of all of those who have rejected the Lord and followed evil will be poured out on

the earth.

19. Read Isaiah 63:1-6 and write what the Lord will do to the strength of those who do evil.
20. Explain what Isaiah said that the Lord would look like after He judges the evil people on the earth.
21. Explain why you think that it will be a time of joy for those who have endured much persecution when they see evil people judged.

We also see the concern that Isaiah had for His people as we read the prayer that Isaiah prayed to the Lord. Isaiah began his prayer by mentioning the love and kindness of the Lord for His people. He spoke of the way that the Lord was with His people. The Lord was the One that had protected His people. God had shown His great care for Israel. God showed His love and mercy to Israel. We know that He even sent Christ to pay the penalty for the sins of Israel as well as for the sins of all people so that their sins could be forgiven. God lifted up His people and cared for them when they had a need. He even made a way for them to go and be protected from their enemies.

22. Read Isaiah 63:7-19 and write what the people did after God had done all of these wonderful things for them.
23. Explain why God sent Christ to pay the penalty for the sins of all people and not just for the sins of one group.
24. Explain why you think that God chose to show His great love and mercy to the nation of Israel.

Here we see a real picture of the sinfulness of all mankind. Even though people see the works of the Lord, they rebel against the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives. As a result, that is why it was necessary for God to turn against His people and judge them for their sin. We also have a short review of the things that God had done in the past for the nation of Israel. In the days of Moses, God led the people of Israel through the Red Sea. God opened the sea so that they could walk through on dry ground. God led them for forty years through the wilderness. During that entire time, He protected them. He gave them food and rest. He led them with a cloud. However, they rebelled against the Lord and rejected His leadership.

25. Read Isaiah 63:7-19 and write from where God is asked to look at His people.
26. Explain why the people of Israel turned away from the Lord even after all of the things that He did to bring them out of Egypt.
27. Explain why you think that many people reject the Lord even after they have seen what the Lord has done to make salvation available to them.

Here we see that Isaiah began to plead to the Lord for His people. He asked God to look at His people with love and kindness. Isaiah realized that the Jews were sinful. He knew that they were walking as though they had never heard about God. However, Isaiah reminded God that the people did serve Him for a little while. Isaiah also told the Lord that He had promised them long before that He would be their Redeemer. As we study this prayer of Isaiah, we can see his real concern for his own people. He prayed for them even though he knew that they deserved to be judged.

28. Read Isaiah 63:7-19 and write what Isaiah said that God was to the nation of Israel.
29. Explain why Isaiah chose to plead with God for his people and asked the Lord to show love and kindness to them.
30. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the concern of Isaiah for his people.

We go on to read the prayer of the small group of people that followed the Lord and still had their trust in Him. They prayed that the Lord would show His power to the people by causing an earthquake. An earthquake is one of the things that shows the power of the Lord more than anything else. People cannot control an earthquake. They cannot run from an earthquake. As a result, an earthquake causes most people to be filled with fear. Sometimes that fear will cause people to think. It may make them realize that they need to put their trust in the Lord instead of

continuing to depend on themselves.

31. Read Isaiah 64:1-12 and write what the people of the world have not seen yet.

32. Explain why the Lord will sometimes use an earthquake to cause people to realize their need to turn to Him.

33. Explain why you think that the small group of people that followed the Lord asked the Lord to show His power with an earthquake.

Here we see that God has prepared some wonderful things for those who wait on Him.

However, the people of the world do not know what God has prepared for those who pray and wait on God. The reason that they do not know what God has prepared for those who wait on Him is the fact that the people without the Lord cannot truly hear what the Lord is saying.

Their ears are closed to the Word of God. They cannot see because their spiritual eyes are blinded. The Lord only shows His works to those who do what is right because they have placed their trust in Him. He does not show His wonderful works to the people that continue to live in sin and trust their own works to save themselves.

34. Read Isaiah 64:1-12 and write what all of our own righteousness or good works are like in the sight of God.

35. Explain why the people who do not have their trust in the Lord cannot truly hear what the Lord is saying.

36. Explain why you think that the Lord chooses to show His works to the people who have chosen to place their trust in Him.

Today we have many people who think that they can work their way to heaven by their own good works. Here we see that the things that we think are good works are actually like filthy rags. Rags were called filthy rags after they had been used to cover the bloody, open sore of lepers. Certainly no one would even want to touch the rags that had covered the sores of a person who had leprosy. Here is a real picture of the uselessness of our own good works. We have all sinned and our works cannot save us. We have all turned away from God instead of following Him.

37. Read Isaiah 64:1-12 and write how Isaiah described the relationship of the people of Israel to God.

38. Explain why a person is in a very dangerous situation if that person is depending on his own works to save him.

39. Explain why you think that God has said that all of the works of people that depend on their works for salvation are like filthy rags.

Since no person can be saved by his or her works, every person must come to the Lord and let Him take away their sins. John 14 tells us that the only way a person can come to the Father is through Christ. Every person must realize that they are like a piece of clay and that God is the only One who can make their lives the right kind of lives. Every person must ask the Lord to forgive their sin and let Him make their lives like He wants to make them. Because the people of Israel refused to let the Lord change their lives and make them right in the sight of God, they had chosen to continue in sin and that is why it became necessary for God to judge them.

40. Read Isaiah 64:1-12 and write what happened to the cities of Israel because the people refused to trust and serve the Lord.

41. Explain why it is important for every person to understand that they are like clay and that only the Lord can make something of value from their lives.

42. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to let the Lord make you a vessel that is useful to the Lord.

Reread Isaiah 62:1-64:12 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Isaiah
Lesson 25
Isaiah 65:1-66:24

Today we come to our final lesson in our study of the book of Isaiah. In our study of these final chapters of Isaiah, we will learn several more things that will happen in the future. God said that He would not deliver the Jews from their suffering until they repented and turned from their sins. In this lesson we will also learn about the new heavens and the new earth that the Lord will create in the future. We will learn what the earth will be like when Christ rules on the earth. God also gives a warning to those who say one thing and then do something else. God examines the hearts of people and knows what they are really like and He will judge them according to what people are in their hearts.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God said Israel must turn from their sin before He could bless them.
- Explain what these chapters teach the land of Israel will be like when Christ rules.
- Explain what God said to those who say one thing and do something else.
- Explain why there will be great joy in Jerusalem when Christ rules.

Even though the people of Israel and Judah did not look for God in the time of Isaiah, God still showed Himself to them. However, the people chose to rebel against the Lord and do many evil things. They would not call on the name of the Lord. They walked in an evil way. They followed their own thoughts. They rebelled against God all of the time. They offered sacrifices to idols. They practiced witchcraft among the graves. They ate the meat of unclean animals. Here we see a real picture of the rebellion and sinfulness of people who do not serve God. They think only of the things that they can do to please themselves.

1. Read Isaiah 65:1-16 and write how holy these people said that they were.
2. Explain why people often choose to rebel against the Lord and practice evil even when they have seen the works of the Lord.
3. Explain why you think that the people of Israel continued to rebel against God after He had shown Himself to them in so many ways.

Although the people were very sinful, they also thought that they were very good. Here we see a real picture of the pride of mankind. A person who is proud will convince himself that he is good even though his life is filled with evil. However, God says that such people are like smoke in His nose. God said that He will repay all evil people according to their evil deeds and thoughts. They will reap exactly as they have sown. Although the Lord is going to judge the people, He made it clear that He would not judge all of the people. God promised to protect that group of people who had been faithful to Him and had served Him.

4. Read Isaiah 65:1-16 and write what God said He would do for His Servant's sake.
5. Explain why people can think that they are good and be filled with pride at the same time that they are practicing evil.
6. Explain why you think that the Lord gave a promise to protect those people that had been faithful to Him.

Instead of destroying all of the Jews, God promised that He would save a group of His people so that they could inherit the land that He had promised to them. The group of people that God promised to save was the people who chose to seek Him. However, God gave a warning to all those who chose to turn away from Him and follow fortune tellers. God said that He had prepared a sword for them. The reasons that they would be killed are also given. God said that He had called His people and they would not answer. God spoke to them and they would not

listen. Instead they chose to do evil and do the things that God hated.

7. Read Isaiah 65:1-16 and write what God said would happen to those people even though they ate food.

8. Explain why God made it clear that the choices of the people would result in good consequences or evil consequences.

9. Explain why you think that the people of Israel refused to listen when God called to them.

Here we see a list of ways in which those who serve the Lord are different from those who do not serve the Lord. Those who serve God will eat and drink. They will rejoice and have a glad heart. However, those who refuse to follow the Lord will be hungry and thirsty. They will be put to shame. Their hearts will be heavy. They will be filled with sadness and have no purpose in life. Finally the day will come when God will destroy them. However, God said that those who chose to serve Him would be called the people of God. They would be blessed by God. God said that one day all of their troubles would become a thing of the past.

10. Read Isaiah 65:1-16 and write why God said that His servants would sing.

11. Explain how God promised to bless all those who chose to repent of their sin and turn to Him.

12. Explain why you think that God said that those who chose to serve Him would be called the people of God.

We read that one day the Lord is going to create new heavens and a new earth. In that day the things of the past will be remembered no more. As a result, there will be no more sorrow or sadness in the new heavens and the new earth. However, before Christ creates the new heavens and the new earth, He will rule on the present earth for a thousand years. We read about several changes that will happen during that thousand year period. During that time the city of Jerusalem will be filled with joy and gladness. All of the people Jerusalem will be glad. There will no longer be sorrow or crying in the city of Jerusalem in that day.

13. Read Isaiah 65:17-25 and write how old a child will be that dies during that thousand year period.

14. Explain why God said that there will be no sorrow and no sadness in the new heavens and the new earth.

15. Explain why you think that God says that in the new heavens and the new earth that the things of the past will be remembered no more.

Here is the section that shows that these verses apply to the time when Christ rules on the earth rather than to the time of the new heavens and the new earth. When the Lord creates the new heavens and the new earth, there will be no more death. However, even when Christ rules on the earth, death will be uncommon. If a child dies, that child will be a hundred years old. If people are still children when they are one hundred years old, many of the people that are adults will be several hundred years old. Those who do die will die because they are being judged for their sins. We see that people will live to the age of trees which is hundreds of years.

16. Read Isaiah 65:17-25 and write what will happen when people build houses in that period of time.

17. Explain why death will be uncommon during the time that Christ rules His kingdom on the earth.

18. Explain why you think that God said that if a person dies at one hundred that the person will still be a child.

Here we see that people will be given such a long life that their houses will become old before they do. They will also be able to enjoy the fruit of the trees that they have planted. Their work will not be wasted because they will be able to enjoy the results of their work. God promises that He will answer the prayers of the people even before they pray. He will hear the people as they speak. The Lord will also change the animals. The wolf will eat grass like the lamb

- instead of eating the lamb. The lion will eat straw in that day. The snakes will eat the dust.
19. Read Isaiah 65:17-25 and write what God says will not happen in His Holy Mountain.
 20. Explain what these verses teach about the changes that will happen on the earth during the time when Christ rules on the earth.
 21. Explain why you think that God will extend the length of life during the time that Christ rules on the earth.

We go on to see another picture of the greatness of the Lord. Heaven is the place where God rules. Earth is the place where God rests His feet. As a result, we are nothing when we compare ourselves with God. He created all things. Now God listens to those who obey His Word and come to Him with a humble spirit. However, God does not listen to those who have a false worship. There were people who offered sacrifices and burned incense to God. Even though they offered sacrifices to God, they did not serve the Lord. Instead they chose to follow their own ways. Here we see a picture of people who are religious but do not serve God.

22. Read Isaiah 66:1-9 and write what God says He will choose for these religious people.
23. Explain why God says that He will listen to those who obey His Word and come to Him with a humble spirit.
24. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to come to the Lord with a humble spirit.

Here we see that the Lord is the One who has the last word. He will choose the way that religious people will be judged. The very things that people fear will be the things that will happen to them. Here we see the reason why sinful people are filled with fear. They are afraid in their hearts because they know that judgment is coming. They have lived in sin and now their sin must be judged. Those who have placed their trust in the Lord do not need to be afraid. Instead they can have joy in their hearts. That is why we as Christians do not need to be afraid of sinful men because God will put those sinful people to shame. This is a wonderful promise which should cause every Christian to be filled with joy. God is in control of all things.

25. Read Isaiah 66:1-9 and write what will happen to Zion (Jerusalem) as soon as she travails.
26. Explain why God says that the very things that sinful people fear will be the things that come upon them.
27. Explain why you think that God says that those who have placed their trust in Him do not need to be fearful or afraid.

Here we see a picture of what is going to happen to the nation of Israel when Christ returns to rule on the earth. In one day God will restore the nation. This will happen suddenly and people will be amazed at the work of the Lord. God said that when He brings the nation of Israel to the point of birth that He will also cause her to come forth as a nation. Here we see a wonderful lesson. God completes the work that He begins. This is one reason why we can always be filled with joy when we have placed our trust in Christ. We can also know that the Lord will complete the work that He has begun in our lives.

28. Read Isaiah 66:1-9 and write what God said would happen to Zion when she travails.
29. Explain why God said that He will restore the nation of Israel in one day and that it will happen very suddenly.
30. Explain what lessons you have learned for your own life from the promises that the Lord has given to Israel in these verses.

Just as we can be full of joy because we know that the Lord will complete His work in our lives, the city of Jerusalem will also be filled with joy when Christ comes back to rule the earth from Jerusalem. The people of Israel will be filled with joy as they see what God has done for Jerusalem. God also promises that He will give peace to the city of Jerusalem. This peace will be like a river. It will last forever. The Lord will care for His people and protect them. He will

bring comfort to Jerusalem just as a mother comforts a baby that she is holding.

31. Read Isaiah 66:10-24 and write how the hearts of the people will feel when they see the Lord do these things.

32. Explain why God said to the people that the peace He will give to the city of Jerusalem will be peace like a river.

33. Explain why you think that God said that He will bring comfort to Jerusalem just as a mother comforts a baby that she is holding.

Here we see that the Jews will be filled with joy when they see the way that the Lord cares for the city of Jerusalem. They will see that the hand of the Lord is on His servants. However, the hand of judgment will be upon those who do evil. The Lord says that He will come with fire and a sword when He comes to bring judgment upon the people that are following evil on the earth. There will be many people that will be killed by the Lord at the time that He comes to judge the evil people on the earth. Some of these people will try to hide their evil works.

34. Read Isaiah 66:10-24 and write what God says that He knows about these evil people.

35. Explain why God said that He will come with fire and a sword when He comes to bring judgment on the people that follow evil.

36. Explain why you think that when Christ comes that some of the evil people will try to hide their works.

God knows the thoughts and the works of all people whether those people are good or evil. When Christ returns to this earth to rule, He will gather together the people of all nations and languages. Then God will send out a group who will go to the nations and tell the people of the nations about the glory of God. God will also gather together all of the Jews who have been scattered among the nations. Those who return will have many different kinds of transportation. People of other nations will also come to Jerusalem to bring their offerings to the Lord.

37. Read Isaiah 66:10-24 and write what God said will happen to the new heavens and the new earth that He will make.

38. Explain why the city of Jerusalem will be filled with joy when Christ returns to rule the earth.

39. Explain why you think that God wants the people of the nations to hear about the glory of the Lord.

God went on to give another wonderful promise to the Jews as He gave Isaiah the final things to write. God told the Jews that their families will last forever just as the new heavens and the new earth will last forever. We also read that all those who have placed their trust in Christ will come to worship Him week by week and month by month. However, there will also be those who fail to follow Christ. Those people will be judged for their sin. Although God said that those people will die physically, He also said that they will still continue to exist.

40. Read Isaiah 66:10-24 and write what will happen to the fire of judgment that will burn them.

41. Explain why God warned that those who follow evil will continue to exist even though they die physically.

42. Explain why you think that the Lord wants all those who follow Him to know that they will live forever.

Reread Isaiah 65:1-66:24 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.