ISAIAH

Volume I

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The Bible Study Textbook Series

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BIBLE STUDY TEXTBOOK SERIES

ISAIAH Volume I

by

Paul T. Butler

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iii

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PREFACE

The righteousness of God, apart from the law, was manifested in Jesus Christ. The New Testament is a record of that perfect and final manifestation. But the law and the prophets bore witness to that manifestation (Rom. 3:21).

Of all the "law and the prophets", Isaiah is the chief witness to that "righteousness of God" manifested in Jesus Christ. Isaiah is appropriately called, "The Gospel Prophet." The Messiah's coming, His nature, His work are most graphically and abundantly predicted by Isaiah. The Messiah's kingdom, its coming, its nature, its citizenry, its universality and its victory over its enemies are most vividly portrayed by Isaiah.

We have deliberately refrained from dealing with highly technical problems of textual nature in order to concentrate on application of Isaiah's message to our needs. If the student wishes further study of a more technical nature, other works more competent than ours are available.

Our fourteen years of classroom instruction in the prophets coupled with class notes of V.K. Allison, former professor of Old Testament at San Jose Bible College, form the basis for these volumes.

We commit them to God and His church, the Israel of God, and pray they may glorify His servant, Immanuel, and bring us all to a deeper participation in His glorious Zion, the universal kingdom of God.

My sincerest thanks to two secretaries whose assistance helped make this volume possible, Mrs. Darlene Ashcraft and Mrs. Sherry Lankford.

THIS VOLUME

IS

DEDICATED

то

Roberta Kenoyer

a true servant of God

and a

friend, helper and encourager

to

anyone

in need.

vi

ISAIAH

by Sherry Butler Lankford

Isaiah son of Amoz, in an hour of meditation saw God enthroned in splendor . . . he would never be the same. Looked inside himself and realized

he was needy and unworthy; repentance brought him healing.

Sixty years were spent in preaching

writing prophecies, predicting . . . thru stormy days and sunlit season love for God brought dignity.

He fixed his heart and set his hand,

to do the thing God did command:

"Thou'll keep in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee."

Deep convictions, kingly courage, not a coward soul was he; bore hardships, perils, disappointment . . .

thru God's strength had victory.

He saw heaven's glories shining and

this gave his words more meaning as they came to human ears: "Fear not, I am with thee, for I am God; I help thee."

Isaiah son of Amoz, spent his life in bringing the Remnant to communion with the Father and a knowledge of His word, to sense something of His loveliness and

to feel His precious nearness

to trust His holy guidance, what a worthy aim for us. "Flowers fade and grass will wither, but the word of God's forever."

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	
Dedication	
Isaiah—by Sherry Butler Lankford	vii
Special Study — The Key to Prophetical Interpretation	1
The Book of The Prophet Isaiah (Introduction)	54
Biblical Outline—Background of Isaiah's Life	
The Prophecies of Judgment	64
The Prophecies of Peace	65
Purpose	66
I. Perversity and Prophet, Chapters 1 - 6	70
A. The Impeaching Accusation, Chapter 1	70
1. Controversy Declared, 1:1-20	
a. Jehovah's Complaint, 1:1-9	
b. Jehovah's Correction, 1:10-17	75
c. Jehovah's Call, 1:18-20	78
2. The Judgment Announced, 1:21-31	80
a Danson for Indoment	
The Corrupt City, 1:24-31	80
b. Results of Judgment—	
b. Results of Judgment— A Cleansed City, 1:24-31	83
B. The Imploring Appeal, Chapters 2 - 4	86
1. Vision of the Coming Messianic Age,	
The Lord's House Established, 2:1-4	86
2. Violence of Corruption and Judgment, 2:5-22	90
a. Light Upon the Darkness, 2:5-9	90
b. Loss of Dignity, 2:10-22	93
3. Vengeance Upon Decadence, 3:1-4:1	98
a. The Wealthy, 3:1-15	98
b. The Women, 3:16-4:1	
4. Victory of the Cleansed, 4:2-6	110
C. The Imprecation of Abandonment, Chapter 5	114
1. The Words of Accusation, 5:1-7	114
2. The Woes of Application, 5:8-23	118
3. The Wrath of Judment, 5:24-30	123
D. Illumination From the Almighty, Chapter 6	126
water worder a worde value tattite Bereft Viter box o	

1. The Prophet Sees God, 6:1-7126
a. The Glory, 6:1-4126
b. The Grace, 6:5-7129
2. The Prophet Sees the World, 6:8-13131
a. The Commission, 6:8-10 131
b. The Consequences, 6:11-13133
Special Study — The Prophet—Man, Message, Medium 136
II. Crisis and The Christ (Immanuel), Chapters 7 - 12 147
A. Promise of Immanuel, Chapter 7147
1. The Crisis, 7:1-9147
2. The Christ, 7:10-16 150
3. The Calamity, 7:17-25156
B. Prevision of Immanuel, Chapter 8159
1. The Prophecy, 8:1-8159
2. The Promise, 8:9-15 163
3. The Pedagogy, 8:16-22 166
C. Peace by Immanuel, Chapter 9169
1. His Personality, 9:1-7169
2. Israel's Presumption, 9:8-17 175
3. Israel's Perversity, 9:18-21178
D. Preservation in Immanuel, Chapter 10 180
1. Social Injustice, 10:1-4 180
2. Scourge of God, 10:5-11 182
3. Smiting of the Scourge, 10:12-19 186
4. Salvation of the Remnant, 10:20-27 191
5. Shame of Assyria, 10:28-34195
E. Program of Immanuel, Chapter 11197
1. Divine Direction, 11:1-9 197
2. Dramatic Deliverance, 11:10-16201
F. Praise for Immanuel, Chapter 12:1-6 205
Special Study — The Christ In Isaiah 208
III. People and Pagans, Chapters 13 - 23 216
A. Implacable Empire, Chapters 13-14 216
1. Babylon, Chapter 13216
a. Prediction of Judgment, 13:1-8 216

ISAIAH

¢

b. Purpose of Judgment, 13:9-16	220
c. Prolongation of Judgment, 13:17-22	
2. Babylon (cont'd), Chapter 14	- 226
a. Despised, 14:1-11	· 226
b. Deposed, 14:12-20	230
c. Destroyed, 14:21-27	
d. Dominated, 14:28-32	237
B. Impudent Easterners, Chapters 15 - 17	
1. Moab, Chapters 15-16	240
a. Invasion, 15:1-9	240
b. Invitation, 16:1-5	
c. Insolence, 16:6-12	
d. Inexorable, 16:13-14	250
2. Damascus, Chapter 17	251
a. Coalition, 17:1-6	251
b. Crisis, 17:7-8	254
c. Collapse, 17:9-11	
d. Chaos, 17:12-14	
C. Incessant Egyptians, Chapters 18 - 20	260
 Ethiopia, Chapter 18:1-7 Egypt, Chapter 19:1-15 	260
2. Egypt, Chapter 19:1-15	264
3. Egypt (cont'd), Chapter 19:16-25	271
4. Egypt and Ethiopia, Chapter 20:1-6	278
D. Irreverent Enemies, Chapters 21 - 23	282
1. Babylon, Edom and Arabia, Chapter 21	282
" a. Babylon, 21:1-10	282
b. Edom and Arabia, 21:11-17	288
2. Judah, Chapter 22	291
a. Irreverent Attitudes, 22:1-14	291
b. Insolent Agent, 22:15-25	297
3. Tyre, Chapter 23	302
a. Splendor, 23:1-7	
b. Shaken, 23:8-14	
c. Submission, 23:15-18	310
Special Study — Prophecy of The Grace That Was To Be	316

Outline of Isaiah to be amplified in volumes to follow:

IV. Judah and Judgment, Chapters 24 - 27

V. Emancipation Not From Egypt, Chapters 28 - 35

VI. Chastening Through Captivity, Chapters 36 - 39

VII. Salvation Through God's Servant, Chapters 40 - 53

VIII. Communion Through God's Covenant, Chapters 54 - 59

IX. Zion, The Zenith, Chapters 60 - 66