



**OLD TESTAMENT
BIBLE STUDY**

ISAIAH

by Jim McCracken & Rich Kao

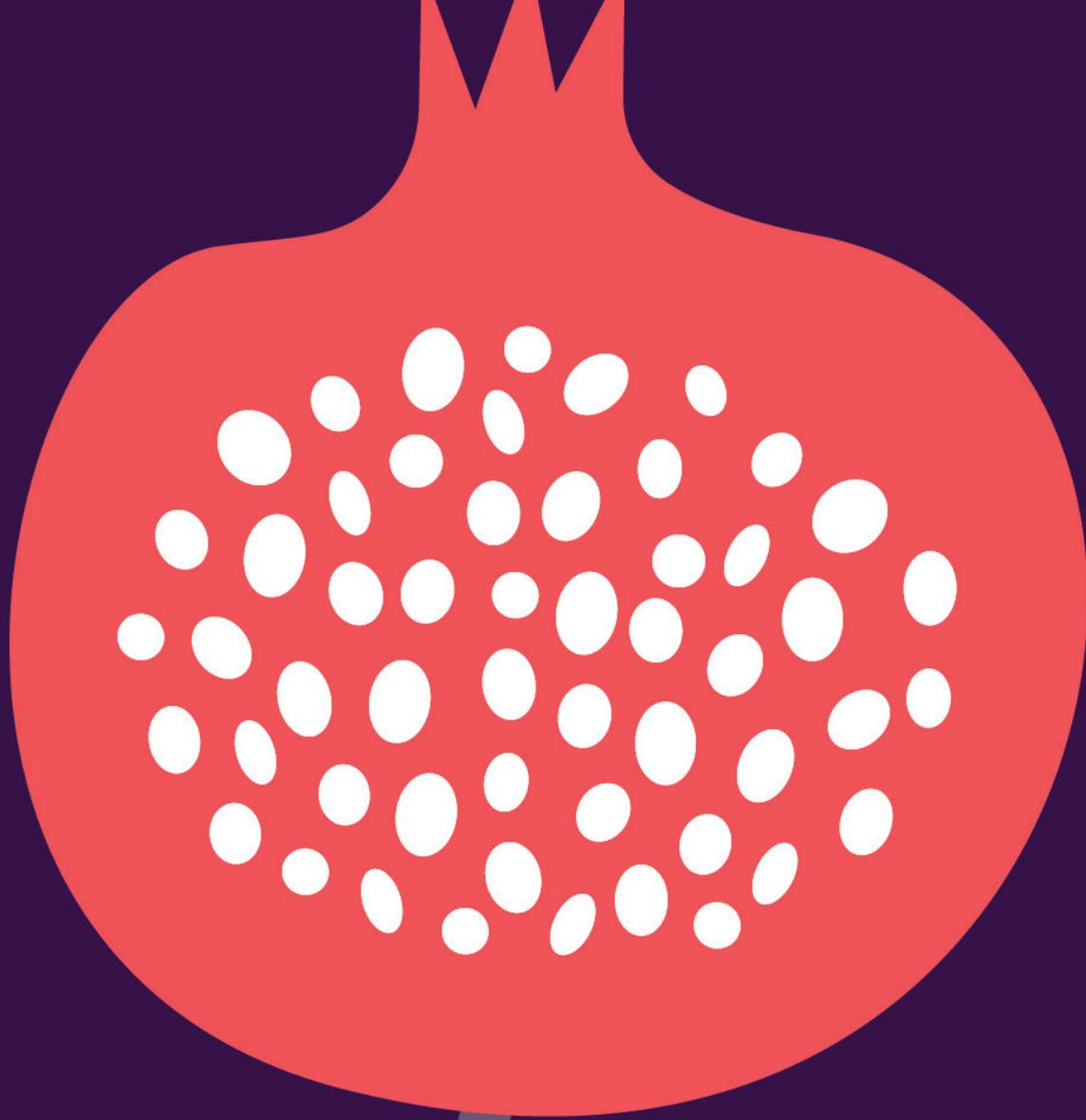


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Bible Literacy Initiative*

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MAJOR PROPHETICAL

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LESSON 55

ISAIAH 1-11

ISAIAH 1-11

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. In this chapter, what things is Israel doing wrong?
What is God saying He will do as a result and what can Israel do to repent? (Chapter 1)
2. As judgment to Judah and Jerusalem, who would the Lord allow to rule His people? (Chapter 3)
3. What were the women of Zion like in those days? What was God's reaction to them? (Chapter 3)
4. This chapter speaks of the Branch of the Lord, which is later shown to be the Messiah.
How will the Lord cleanse His people in that day? (Chapter 4)
5. In this chapter, there is a story of a bad vineyard. Who is the bad vineyard? (Chapter 5)
6. What was God's word to Ahaz concerning Rezin and Pekah? (Chapter 7)
7. What did God say Isaiah's relationship to the people should be? (Chapter 8)
8. What are the prophecies about the Messiah in this chapter? (Chapter 9)
9. What are some reasons God gives for being angry with Israel? (Chapter 9)
10. What will the remnant be like in those days? (Chapter 10)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What does Zion picture to us today and why did God choose a mountain to characterize it? (Chapter 2)
2. What must take place in the last days before peace will come to the nations? (Chapter 2)
3. In this chapter, what was the spiritual condition of God's people? How is that like the church today? (Chapter 2)
4. What can we learn from Isaiah's feeling of unworthiness and then his willingness to go after being touched on his mouth? (Chapter 6)
5. What was Isaiah's vision of the Lord like and what did God tell him to tell the people? (Chapter 6)
6. What was the event God told Ahaz would happen as a sign that he would not be conquered by the two kings he feared? How does that affect us today? (Chapter 7)
7. What was the significance of Isaiah's son's name Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz? How did God use Assyria? (Chapter 8)
8. Why does God get angry with Assyria? What does this say to us? (Chapter 10)
9. Who is the "Branch" from the stump of Jesse? What is his character? (Chapter 11)
10. Is this chapter a prophecy of the Messiah's first coming, second coming, or both? (Chapter 11)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

**CONSIDERATION
CORNER**

Consider this:

To the Lord, one day is as a thousand years. Some of the paragraphs from Isaiah contain prophecy spanning from Isaiah's time (760 BC) through Christ's first coming to His second coming and the Millennium.

ANSWERS TO LESSON 55

OBSERVATIONS

1. They rebelled, forsook the Lord and corrupted themselves. The Lord will stop hearing their prayers; but if they repent, then the Lord will cleanse them completely and heal them. Israel should seek justice, be willing and obedient. (1)
2. Youth and women. (3:12)
3. Haughty, prideful. God would replace their finery with judgment. (3:16-26)
4. With the spirit of fire and the spirit of judgment. (4:4)
5. The bad vineyard is the house of Israel. They called bitter sweet, and sweet bitter. They called darkness light, and light darkness. They called evil good, and good evil. (5)
6. If Ahaz did not stand in faith, he would not stand at all. (7: 9)
7. He was not to follow the way of the people, to fear what they fear, but rather to fear God. (8:11-22)
8. He will be in Galilee of the Gentiles, the government will be upon His shoulders, and he will be from David's line. (9:1, 6-7)
9. Pride, arrogance, not seeking God, not repenting, oppressing each other. (9:8-21)
10. They will follow God and be victorious. (10:20-27)
1. They rebelled, forsook the Lord and corrupted themselves. The Lord will stop hearing their prayers; but if they repent, then the Lord will cleanse them completely and heal them. Israel should seek justice, be willing and obedient. (1)
2. The church will bring the gospel to all nations. In the last days the Lord will set up his millennial kingdom for 1000 years and there will be peace. (2:1-4)
3. They turned to eastern religions and worshiped idols of gold and silver. Many people in the liberal church today are doing the same. (2:6-8)
4. God will cleanse us and give us the words if we simply make ourselves available to go. (6:5-8)
5. He saw the Lord exalted and the train of His robes filled the temple. He said they would hear but not understand and see but not perceive. (6:1,9)
6. A virgin would conceive and give birth to a son who would be called Immanuel. This was a prophecy of the birth of Jesus who we believe in as our Lord and Savior. (7:14)
7. It meant "quick to the plunder". God used Assyria as an instrument of His judgment to plunder Israel. (8:1-10)
8. Assyria thought they conquered in their own strength. We must realize that every nation and authority exists only because God allows it to exist. (10:12-19)
9. The Branch is the Messiah, Jesus Christ. He has the spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, power, knowledge and fear of God. (11:1-5)
10. Both. It is prophecy concerning the Messiah's first coming and His return in final victory with the years of peace following. (11)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Zion pictures the church as a mountain. The church reaches heavenward and becomes a retreat for people to find strength and guidance.

The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of stylized pomegranates. Each pomegranate is depicted as a white, rounded shape with a crown-like top, filled with a grid of small black dots representing seeds. The pomegranates are connected by thin, dark blue stems and leaves. The entire pattern is set against a solid, vibrant red background.

LESSON 56

ISAIAH 12-23

ISAIAH 12-23

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. When God reclaims a remnant, how will they respond to the Lord, according to Isaiah? (Chapter 12)
2. Isaiah prophecies against Assyria, the Philistines and Moab. What are Moab's sins and how much time does Isaiah give them? (Chapters 14-16)
3. In the prophecy against Egypt, what things will be destroyed? (Chapter 19)
4. According to Isaiah's prophecy, Egypt, Assyria and Israel would relate to each other in what ways? (Chapters 19 & 20)
5. What event in Babylon is predicted in this chapter? (Chapter 21)
6. What is the greatest sin of Jerusalem as they prepare for attack? (Chapter 22)
7. What relationship did Tyre have with the nations and what analogy does Isaiah use to describe this relationship? (Chapter 23)
8. What character of man does God seem to judge more than anything else? (Chapter 23)

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What nation are these chapters a prophecy against? What can we learn from this nation's downfall? (Chapters 13 & 14)
2. In what way will Israel change places with Babylon? What does this say to us today? (Chapters 13 & 14)
3. The prophecy against Damascus in this chapter tells us how Israel has forgotten their Savior, the Rock, their fortress. What does it say about fruitfulness and how does this apply to us? (Chapter 17)
4. Cush is very likely Ethiopia, or perhaps the Sudan. Is God impressed by this people that are feared far and wide? (Chapter 18)
5. What do we see as God's underlying reason for striking Egypt? (Chapters 19 & 20)
6. In the prophecy against Dumah (Edom), the question is asked, "What is left of the night?" What does this question and the subsequent answer symbolize? (Chapter 21)
7. Why is Jerusalem called "the valley of vision"? (Chapter 22)
8. Although God hates the wickedness of Tyre, where does He say her riches will go? What does this say to us? (Chapter 23)
9. Why doesn't Scripture say which prophecy is for Isaiah's time and which is for a later time? (Chapter 23)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION CORNER

Consider this:

God put on Eliakim's shoulder (22:22) "the key to the house of David; what He opens, no one can shut; and what He shuts, no one can open." This same key, given to Peter and the church, surely is the ability to make decisions and proclamations according to the Spirit of God.

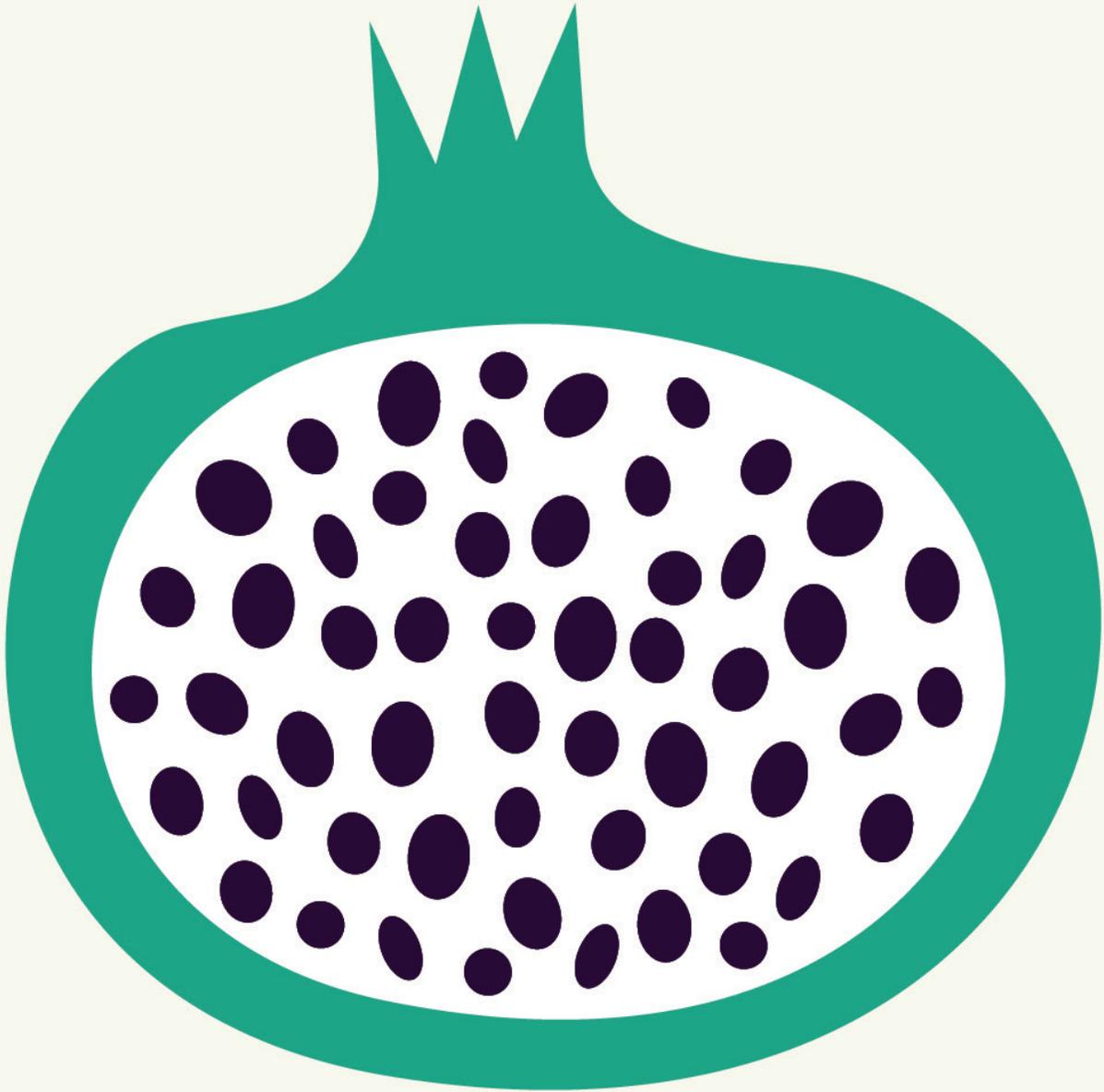
ANSWERS TO LESSON 56

OBSERVATIONS

1. They will praise the Lord and rejoice in Him. With joy, they will draw water from the wells of salvation and make known His deeds among the nations. (12)
2. Moab has much pride and conceit. Isaiah gives them 3 years. (16:6,14)
3. National unity, water supply, crops, fishing, wisdom, pride, confidence. (19:1-15)
4. Assyria and Israel would gain victories at different times over Egypt, but one day all three countries would be united as a blessing on earth. There will be a road from Assyria to Egypt. (19:23-20:6)
5. The destruction of Babylon is foretold. While they are eating and drinking, the Medes (Media) and the Persians (Elan) spring an attack. (21:1-10)
6. Their greatest sin was not looking to God, but trusting in the fortified city. Shebna was prideful in his chariots and his tomb. God would place Eliakim in firmly. (22:5-23)
7. Tyre is called the marketplace of the nations and is compared to a prostitute. (23:3,15-17)
8. Pride and an unwillingness to look to God.

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. The prophecy is against Babylon. No matter how strong a person or nation is, they will be brought low if they are sinful, evil or arrogant. (13 & 14)
2. They will make captives of their captors. When we walk with the Lord, He will give us strength to control the worldly things which once controlled us. (14:2)
3. If we forget the Lord, the things we apply our hands to will not be fruitful. (17:10-11)
4. No. He will remain quiet and look on. Then at the appointed time, He will cut them down. (18)
5. He would strike them and heal them because then they would turn to Him. If God disciplines us, it is so we will turn to Him. (19 & 20)
6. The night represents suffering. The answer is that morning is coming (the suffering will end), but night is also returning. (21:11-12)
7. Jerusalem was always looked at as the place where God gave direction (vision) to His people. Being surrounded by mountains, it is a valley. (22:1)
8. He will give Tyre's profit and earnings to those who live before the Lord! The righteous will inherit the spoil of the wicked. (23:17-18)
9. Like Jesus' Parables, God wants us to seek Him in order to understand.



LESSON 57

ISAIAH 24-35

ISAIAH 24-35

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. Who is the prophecy against in this chapter and what will be their outcome? (Chapter 24)
2. For what things does Isaiah extol God? (Chapter 25)
3. What type of nation will be able to enter the open gates and be kept in perfect peace? What type will be brought low and trampled down? (Chapter 26)
4. What is God's ultimate promise for deliverance? (Chapter 26)
5. To what is Ephraim's glory compared? How is the Lord's justice and strength pictured at the same time? (Chapter 28)
6. What is the condition of the priests and prophets? (Chapter 28)
7. What did the rebellious children do to displease God? (Chapters 30 & 31)
8. What would be the result if these rebellious children would repent? Do they want to repent? (Chapters 30 & 31)
9. How does God view the women of Jerusalem at this time, and what is His word to them? (Chapter 32)
10. What is the character of the prophecy in Chapter 34?
11. What is the character of the prophecy in Chapter 35?

02 DEEPER THOUGHT »

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. The prophecy in this chapter will affect people in what walk of life? Why? What does this tell us today? (Chapter 24)
2. Compare verses 21-23 with a passage in the New Testament. What period of time is this talking about? (Chapter 24)
3. What does the mountain picture in verses 6-9? What is happening on this mountain? (Chapter 25)
4. What reasons does Isaiah give for such yearning for God? What should this say to us? (Chapter 26)
5. This chapter contains judgment pictured by the slaying of a serpent and blessing pictured by the careful care of a vineyard. Who is this prophecy about? (Chapter 27)
6. With the leaders and nation being drunk and full of filth, what is God's salvation for the people? What is the meaning of the bed being too short and the cover too small? (Chapter 28)
7. What does the story of the farmer and his methods picture? (Chapter 28)
8. What city is Ariel and how do the nations relate to it? (Chapter 29)
9. What is the spiritual character of the people? What will be the result of this? (Chapter 29)
10. God's fire will consume enemies, but who in Zion will be afraid? God is called judge, law-giver and king. What is the difference? (Chapter 33)

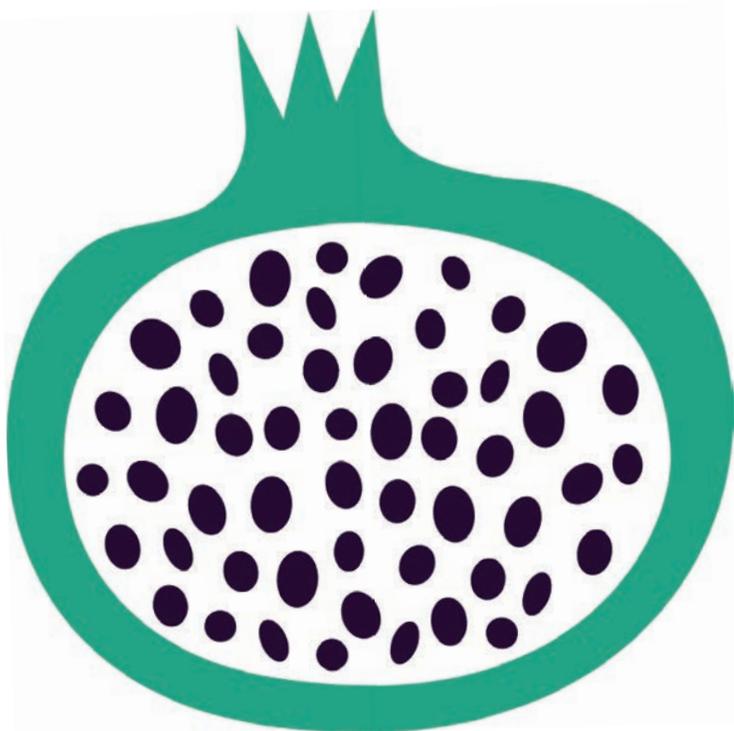
03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

Isaiah 24-27 is sometimes called the “Isaiah Apocalypse” (revelation). Like the book of Revelation, it not only shows the downfall of earthly enemies, but also supernatural enemies, and death itself. It also contains clear promises of bodily resurrection!



LESSON 57: ISAIAH 24-35

ANSWERS TO LESSON 57

OBSERVATIONS

1. The prophecy is against the whole earth. There will be earthquakes and floods, sorrow and gloom. (24)
2. Perfect faithfulness, marvelous works, being a refuge for the poor and needy, and salvation. (25:1-9)
3. The righteous nations, that keep faith, whose mind is steadfast, who trust in God. The lofty ones will be brought low, trampled by those they oppressed. (26:2-6)
4. Resurrection. (26:19)
5. A wreath on the head of a drunkard! The Lord is as a glorious crown on the remnant who follow Him. (28:1-6)
6. They are drunk. There is filth everywhere, and the leaders see visions and make decisions in a drunken stupor. (28:7-8)
7. They look to earthly allegiances and they are unwilling to hear the instruction of the Lord. (30:1-2, 9-10, 31:1-3)
8. God would be gracious and compassionate. He would show them the way. He would destroy their enemies and bless their land. The people don't want to repent, they trust in their own strength. (30:15-26)
9. They're complacent, secure in worldly things. They are to break from their satisfaction in worldly fulfillment and seek God. (32:9-20)
10. It is a judgment against the nations, especially Edom. The destruction will be great for those against God. (34)
11. It is a direct contrast to Chapter 34. It is about the joy of God's redeemed. It is strength and encouragement for the ransomed of the Lord. (35)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. It will be for people in all walks of life, because they have broken God's covenant and laws. God is no respecter of persons in judgment. We must not rely on our positions or accomplishments, but walk with God. (24:1-6)
2. Revelation 21:22-27. The Millennium.
3. The mountain is God's Church, the New Jerusalem. All people can be saved in Christ. Compare to Rev. 21:1-4
4. God is the only one to be trusted for salvation, for peace, for righteousness. When we are disappointed or misused, it should drive us closer to God, not make us bitter. (26)
5. The serpent pictures the pagan nations. The vineyard is God's people Israel. (27:1-3)
6. The precious cornerstone, Jesus! Their own attempts will fall short. Justice and righteousness will be the lines to measure by. (28:16-20)
7. The ways of God. Diverse, complex, wise, yet expertly simple! (28:23-29)
8. Ariel is Jerusalem. Hordes of nations fight against it, but God keeps them from conquering. (29:1-7)
9. They are like people trying to read who can't read. They honor God with lip service and rules. They try to tell God what to do, like the clay telling the potter. God will show His wisdom with wonders. The humble will be exalted and the prideful cut down. The desert will become fertile and the fertile land desert. (29:13-24)
10. The sinners in Zion will be terrified. God is a lawgiver, but also the righteous judge to carry out the law and a king who sees that His people prosper in the law. (33:14, 22)

The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of stylized pomegranates. Each pomegranate is a vibrant red color with a crown-like top and a body filled with numerous small white dots representing seeds. The pomegranates are connected by thin, teal-colored stems and leaves. The overall background color is a deep, dark purple.

LESSON 58

ISAIAH 36-47

ISAIAH 36-47

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. What was Hezekiah's response to Sennacherib's threats and what was the result of this response? (Chapters 36 & 37)
2. What was the sign Isaiah gave with the prophecy about Sennacherib? Did the prophecy come to pass? (Chapters 36 & 37)
3. What did Isaiah do after the messengers visited Hezekiah and saw all the wealth in his palace? (Chapter 39)
4. What do these chapters say about God's greatness? (Chapters 40 & 41)
5. What is the "new thing" God will do? (Chapter 43)
6. What do verses 24-28 tell us about God's Word? (Chapter 44)
7. What does God say to those who would "quarrel with their Maker"? (Chapter 45)
8. Does God limit salvation to Israel in His words through Isaiah? (Chapter 45)
9. What does God say about the gods of Babylon? (Chapter 46)
10. How will Babylon and her "priests" try to save themselves? Will it work? (Chapter 47)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

1. What was Sennacherib's character and what false assumption did he make about the God of Israel and Jerusalem that got him into trouble? (Chapters 36 & 37)
2. What was Hezekiah's response to God concerning his illness and subsequent healing with the promise of 15 more years of life? (Chapter 38)
3. Chapters 40 and 42 are full of "messianic" prophecy. What are some of the specific things prophesied? Can you remember any New Testament verses corresponding to this?
4. What is the meaning of verses 18-25? Who is blind and deaf? (Chapter 42)
5. How will God stand by His people? What is prophesied about Babylon in this chapter? (Chapter 43)
6. What does this chapter tell us about the character of man apart from God? (Chapter 44)
7. What upcoming event in Israel's history did the prophecy of "Cyrus my Shepherd" concern? (Chapter 45)
8. To what does God compare Babylon? What is the meaning behind this? (Chapter 47)

03 CONSIDERATION CORNER »

03

**CONSIDERATION
CORNER**

Consider this:

The gods of Babylon were a continual burden that had to be carried in processions from place to place. What a contrast to Jehovah the Living God Who is our eternal burden-bearer! If Babylon pictures the world, it does not take much imagination to apply this to our lives today!

ANSWERS TO LESSON 58

OBSERVATIONS

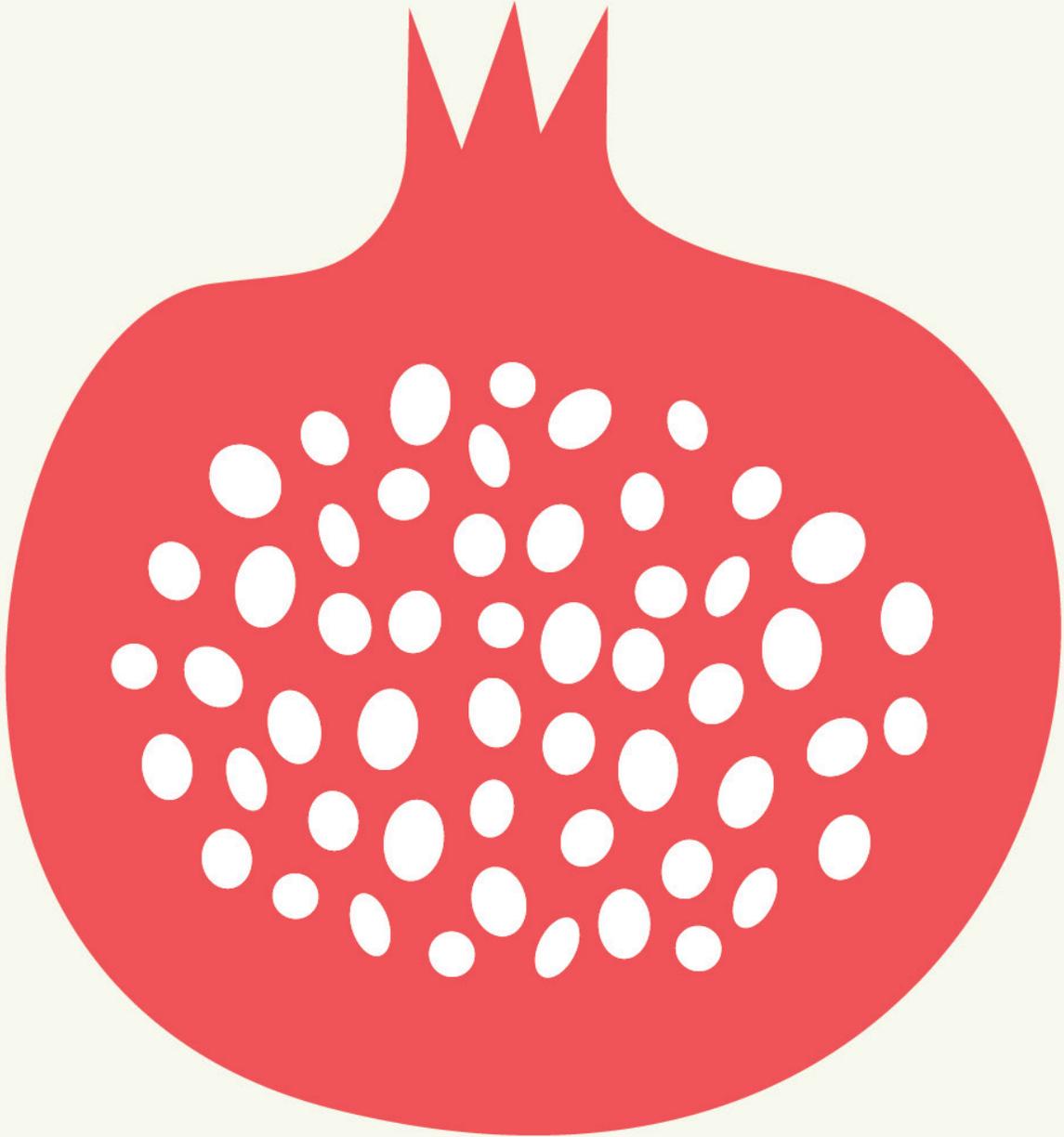
1. Hezekiah prayed and sought God personally and also sought help from God's prophet Isaiah. Isaiah prophesied against Sennacherib and he was defeated. (37:1-7, 14-38)
2. The sign was that they would eat the fruit of the land without planting for two years. God killed 185,000 Assyrians, and Sennacherib was killed by his own sons. The prophecy was fulfilled. (37:30-38)
3. He prophesied the carrying away of Judah into Babylonian captivity. (39:5-7)
4. He can't be measured or fully understood with the mind. A sculpture of him cannot be made. He has created everything, yet He tends His people like a shepherd.
5. He will make a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. (43:19)
6. His word is what makes things happen. He makes His servants' words good and makes fools out of false prophets.
7. Woe to them! The clay does not argue with the potter. (45:9)
8. No, he tells all the ends of the earth to turn to Him. (45:22)
9. They are burdensome. They are a burden for the weary. They don't move, they don't hear, and they don't act. (46:1-7)
10. Use sorcery, magic spells and astrology. No. (47:9-15)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. Sennacherib was arrogant and prideful. He assumed that God was like the gods of the other cities he captured with handmade idols. (36:4-10, 37:5-13)
2. He cried out to God. When God healed him, he praised God for life and said that the living could praise God better than the dead. (38)
3. John the Baptist preparing the way. Jesus receiving the Holy Spirit. Jesus healing and speaking the truth. Compare to Matthew 3:3,16 & 12:18-21 (40:3, 42:1-4)
4. Israel is blind and deaf to their calling and responsibility to the Lord.
5. God will stand by His people because He wants to, not because they are faithful (they aren't). Babylon will fall under the hand of the Lord. (43:4-7,14)
6. Men apart from God are senseless, worshipping what they've made with their own hands. (44:6-20)
7. This was a prophecy concerning the rebuilding of Jerusalem and the temple. (45:1-13)
8. A virgin, a queen, a widow and a childless mother. Her beauty will be cut down and ruling power cut off. She will lose her allies and colonies. (47)

LESSON 59

ISAIAH 48-66



ISAIAH 48-66

01

OBSERVATIONS

1. According to God, what is the character of the Israelite people? (Chapter 48)
2. Will the Lord ever forget His people? (Chapter 49)
3. To what type of child does the Lord compare Israel and what does he say is the condition of their wealth? (Chapter 50)
4. What are the many things which the Messiah will suffer? (Chapter 53)
5. How does Isaiah compare God's present wrath with the waters of Noah? (Chapter 54)
6. Isaiah tells us that the things of God are for the thirsty & hungry and they are without price. How are they to be obtained? (Chapter 55)
7. What are God's feelings toward the Gentiles and those who are fruitless in natural things? (Chapter 56)
8. God hates Israel's whorish ways and self-righteousness. What is He looking for them to revive? (Chapter 57)
9. What is the kind of fast God is looking for compared to what Israel did when they fasted? (Chapter 58)
10. What will be the result of God's chosen fast? (Chapter 58)
11. Why is Israel's land also called Beulah land? (Chapter 62)
12. What does Isaiah compare our righteousness to? (Chapter 64)

02

DEEPER THOUGHT

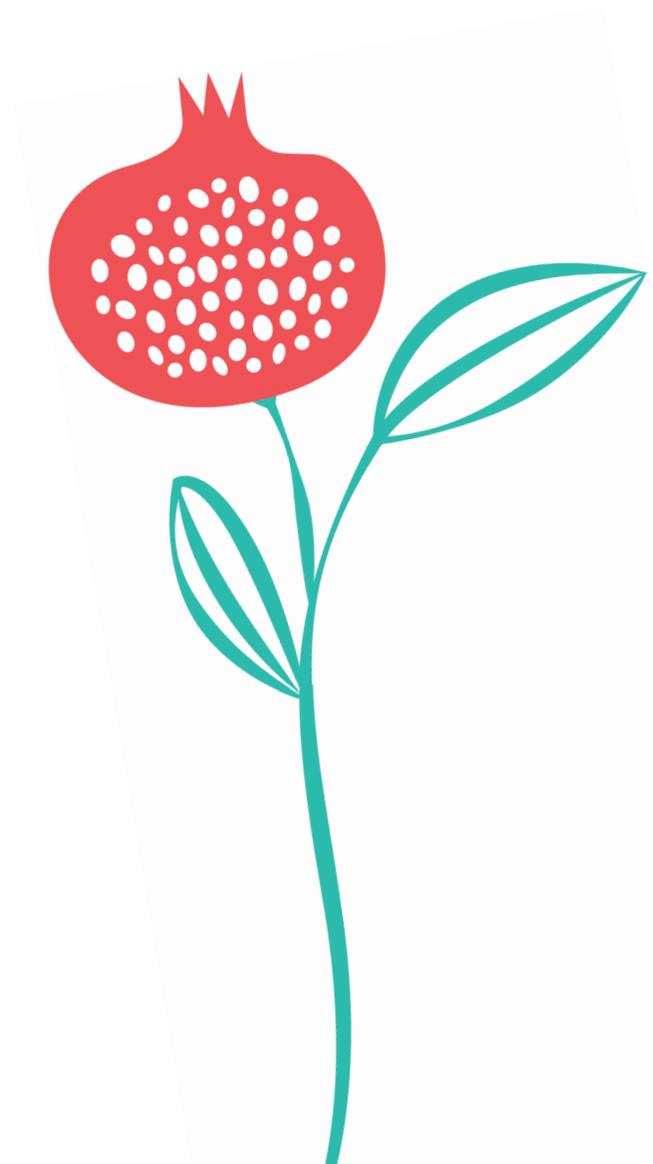
1. What prophecy concerning a great happening to his people does Isaiah give in this chapter? How does this picture us today? (Chapter 48)
2. What is the prophecy about in the first part of this chapter? (Chapter 49)
3. Identify the prophecies about Jesus in this chapter. (Chapter 50)
4. What was the rock from which Israel was cut and the quarry from which they were taken? (Chapter 51)
5. Whose feet are beautiful? What was the meaning of this to Israel and to us now? (Chapter 52)
6. How will people who believe specifically benefit from the sufferings of the Messiah? (Chapter 53)
7. This chapter contains promises for the Gentiles, but it also contains a promise for Israel in respect to how the Gentile nations treat her. What is the promise? (Chapter 54)
8. How does Isaiah compare God's ways and His Word with those of man? (Chapter 55)
9. The Lord's arm is not too short to save, or his ear deaf so that he can't hear. What then held back God from Israel? (Chapter 59)
10. What is the prophecy in this chapter concerning? Who are the great blessings for? (Chapter 60)
11. What New Testament event does this chapter bring to mind? What are the "garments" for us in the chapter? (Chapter 61)
12. What is the prophecy referring to, concerning Christ, that He has trodden the wine press alone and His garments are red? (Chapter 63)
13. This chapter contains prophecy about unfaithful Israel and a call to the Gentiles. What other amazing time is it speaking of? (Chapter 65)
14. God says that Heaven is His throne and earth His footstool. He is not looking to inhabit something men build. What is He wanting to inhabit? (Chapter 66)

03

CONSIDERATION
CORNER

Consider this:

500 years after Isaiah's time, Jesus fulfilled, to the detail, scores of things prophesied concerning the Messiah.



LESSON 59: ISAIAH 48 - 66

ANSWERS TO LESSON 59

OBSERVATIONS

1. They are stiff-necked and they call on the Lord, but not out of a relationship with Him. (48:1, 4)
2. No, he will never forget His people. They are engraved on the palm of His hands. (49:15-16)
3. An orphan and a debtor. (50:1)
4. He would be despised, rejected, sorrowful, grieving, stricken, smitten of God, afflicted, wounded, bruised, chastised, and oppressed. (53)
5. As God promised to not cover the earth with the water again, so his wrath would be for the moment. (54:7-9)
6. Seek the Lord and listen to Him. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. (55:1-7)
7. The Lord accepts the stranger as his own if he turns to the Lord. Fruitless in natural things will be bountiful in the Lord. (56:3-7)
8. A humble and contrite heart. (57:15)
9. God is looking for a fast where men humble themselves to break the bands of wickedness and help the oppressed and poor, not a fast of strife and debate. (58:4-7)
10. Health and light will break forth. Righteousness will be a testimony and God's glory will be the reward. God will hear and guide. (58:8-11)
11. Beulah means "married". God wanted them to know He was their husband and he delighted in them. (62:4-5)
12. Filthy rags. (64:6)

QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER THOUGHT

1. He prophesied freedom from Babylon. This pictures our walk with the Lord, free from the world. (48:12-22)
2. It's about the servant of the Lord, Jesus, who will be a light to the Jews and Gentiles. (49:1-7)
3. They mocked and spit at Jesus. They pulled out His beard and whipped His back. (50:6)
4. The rock and quarry of God's promises and calling as people of God. (51:1-4)
5. He who brings good news. This meant physical deliverance to them. It means salvation to us through people sharing the gospel (feet shod with the gospel of peace). (52:7)
6. He will take their griefs, sorrows, transgressions, iniquities, and chastisement. They will be forgiven, have peace, and be healed. (53)
7. Whoever gathers against Israel or forms weapons against her will not prosper. (54:17)
8. God's thoughts and ways are not like ours. They are higher as the heavens are to the earth. His word never returns to Him void. (55:8-9)
9. Israel's iniquities and sins. (59:1-2)
10. It is foretelling the Gentiles being accepted in Christ and the glory of Christ's Church. (60)
11. Jesus read this portion of Isaiah in the temple on Sabbath and told everyone He was the literal fulfillment of it. The garments of praise, salvation and righteousness are for us. (61:1-3)
12. Gethsemane means "wine press". Jesus suffered and bled for us, taking our sins, thus the red garments. (63:1-3)
13. That time after Christ's second coming, the Millennium. (65:17-25)
14. Hearts of men. Humble and contrite hearts. (66:1-3)