

The Word of Promise - The Prophecies of Isaiah

This week – We learn that God’s word accurately foretold History before it happened!

700 years before Jesus was born, the prophet Isaiah wrote of Him:
“He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,” Isaiah 53.3.

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Deuteronomy 18v15-22 (Test for a true prophet)	
Monday	1 Kings 17v1-24 (The widow knew Elijah was a prophet)	
Tuesday	Isaiah 44v21-28 (Jerusalem to be restored)	
Wednesday	Isaiah 45v1-19 (Cyrus spoken of 170 years before he lived!)	
Thursday	Isaiah 53v1-12 (Christ the Saviour’s death foretold)	
Friday	Isaiah 55v1-13 (Gospel call 700 years before Christ lived)	
Saturday	Isaiah 65v17-25 (New Heavens and New Earth foretold)	

Important Lesson for us Today: *Why should the Bible be trusted? The future is unknown and so man has devised ways to predict it such as Horoscopes and Chinese fortune cookies. These are guesses at best and are so written that anyone can read into them their own life events. Yet the Bible is unique as it has a proven success record in making detailed and accurate predictions of the future. It even sets itself a test (Deuteronomy 18v22); all short-term prophecies MUST come true. Daniel’s prophecies accurately predicted the rise and fall of future empires (even the Roman Empire which was unheard of in his day!). King David prophesied of Christ and his prophecies were perfectly fulfilled. (Read Psalm 22 and 72). They have been so accurate that unbelieving cynics have said that the prophecies must have been written **after** the event; but this was disproved when the Dead Sea Scrolls were found - parchments of Scripture that predated the events the prophets wrote about!*

Will we trust ALL the Word of God and accept that we are sinners in need of Christ, the Saviour?

Hymn 333 tells how Christ, our Saviour, is the focal point of the Bible’s prophecies and message:

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| 1. Come, Saviour Christ, our only Lord
Thou great Interpreter divine,
Explain Thine own transmitted Word,
To teach and to inspire is Thine:
Thou only canst Thyself reveal,
Open Thy book, and loose its seal. | 2. Whate’er the ancient prophets spoke
Concerning Thee, O Christ, make known;
Chief subject of the sacred book,
Thou fillest all, and Thou alone:
Yet there our Lord we cannot see
Unless, Thy Spirit give the key. |
| 3. Now, Jesus, now the veil remove -
The folly of our darkened heart;
Unfold the wonders of Thy love,
The knowledge of Thyself impart:
Our ears - our inmost souls we bow,
Speak, Lord, to us Thy servants now. | |

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible

Prophecies From Isaiah - Fulfilled and Future.

○ Prophecy – Foretelling History Before it Happened!

- Isaiah was God’s prophet during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah.
- Despite the spiritual reform during Hezekiah and Josiah’s reign, immorality and idol worship predominantly prevailed throughout Israel and Judah.
- Isaiah warned the people of the evil of their ways and prophesied Judgement.

○ The Punishment of Judah and Jerusalem by The Babylonians.

- Isaiah warned the people of captivity if they ignored God’s warning (Isaiah 3.8)
- 100 years later Nebuchadnezzar conquered Judah taking many captives.

○ The Restoration of the Jewish Captives Back to Their Own Land.

- Jeremiah 25.11 states that the Jews would be captives for 70 years.
- Isaiah prophesied Babylon would topple to Cyrus (named 170 years before his birth, Isaiah 44v28), and, contrary to usual practice, that Cyrus would release the Jews and allow them to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple!

○ A Virgin Bearing a Child – The Promised Messiah.

- 700 years before Christ’s birth, the Jews were promised a Saviour and Deliverer whose name would be Immanuel, (God with us). Isaiah 7.14
- Isaiah 9.1-2 predicted that He would first appear in lowly Galilee. Jesus Christ was known as a Galilean. **How amazingly accurate Isaiah’s prophecies are!**

○ A Stem of Jesse, (Father of King David).

- Isaiah 11.1-10 Israel, pictured as a dead tree stump, seemed finished as a nation with little blessing of God; to be ruled by Rome. Isaiah prophesied that Christ, from the family of David, would come to bring spiritual life to the people again.

○ A ‘Man of Sorrows and Acquainted with Grief.’

- Jesus Christ lived out the prophecy of Isaiah 53 precisely. He was despised, rejected, wounded, bruised, chastised, beaten, oppressed, afflicted, opening not his mouth to his false accusers, and cut off in death and buried with the wicked.
- Why did He do this? It was so that sinners like us could be saved. **What a Saviour!**

○ The Gospel to be Preached to Gentiles as Well as Jews.

- The Good News of Calvary would be taken to the ‘ends of the earth.’ Isaiah 45.22.

○ New Heavens and a New Earth. (Yet to happen!)

- Isaiah 65.17 and 66.22 predict the day the Saviour will return in judgement. He will destroy this sinful world and create a new one. Eternity ushered in.

Are we prepared for His return? We ignore the Bible to our eternal Peril.

The Lord Jesus Christ said: “All things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms concerning Me ... And thus [I had] to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached ... among all nations.”

Luke 24v44-47.