

# Isaiah

## “The Evangelical Prophet”

### I. God’s Denunciation of Judah (1:1-12:6)

- A. The Condemnation of Judah (1:1-2:1-4)
- B. The Cleansing Judgments to Come (2:5-5:30)
- C. The Calling of Isaiah (6:1-13)

### D. The Coming of Messiah (7:1-12:6)

- 1. Isaiah’s *Ministry* to Ahaz (7:1-25)
- 2. Isaiah’s *Affirmation* of Assyria’s Invasion (8:1-9:7)

### 3. Isaiah’s *Judgments* against Israel (N. Kingdom) and Assyria (9:8-10:34)

- a. The *Judgments* against Israel (N. Kingdom) (9:8-10:4)

### B. The *Judgment* against Assyria (10:5-34)

- 1) The “Rod” of God’s Anger—Assyria (10:5-11)

<sup>5</sup> *Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger  
and the staff in whose hands is My indignation,*

<sup>6</sup> *I send it against a godless nation and commission it  
against the people of My fury  
to capture booty and to seize plunder,  
and to trample them down like mud in the streets.*

<sup>7</sup> *Yet it does not so intend, nor does it plan so in its heart,  
but rather it is its purpose to destroy and to cut off many nations.*

<sup>8</sup> *For it says, “Are not my princes all kings?”*

<sup>9</sup> *“Is not Calno like Carchemish,  
Or Hamath like Arpad,  
Or Samaria like Damascus?”*

<sup>10</sup> *“As my hand has reached to the kingdoms of the idols,  
whose graven images were greater than those of Jerusalem and Samaria,*

<sup>11</sup> *Shall I not do to Jerusalem and her images  
just as I have done to Samaria and her idols?”*

- 2) The *Pronouncement* of Assyria’s Punishment (10:12-19)

<sup>12</sup> So it will be that when **the Lord** has **completed** all His work  
on **Mount Zion** and on **Jerusalem**, **He** will say,

“I will **punish** the **fruit** of the **arrogant heart** of the **king of Assyria**  
and the **pomp** of his **haughtiness**.” <sup>13</sup> For he has said,  
“By the **power** of **my hand** and by **my wisdom** I did *this*,  
for I have **understanding**; and **I removed** the **boundaries** of the **peoples**  
and **plundered** their **treasures**,  
and like a **mighty man** **I brought down** *their inhabitants*,

<sup>14</sup> And **my hand** reached to the **riches** of the **peoples** like a **nest**,  
and as one gathers **abandoned eggs**, **I gathered** all the **earth**;  
and there was **not one** that flapped its wing or opened *its* beak or chirped.”

<sup>15</sup> Is the **axe** to **boast itself over** the one who **chops with it**?  
Is the **saw** to **exalt itself over** the one who **wields it**?

*That would be* like a **club** *wielding those* who **lift it**,  
*Or* like a **rod** *lifting him* who is **not wood**.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore **the Lord**, the **GOD of hosts**,  
will send a **wasting disease** among his **stout warriors**;  
and under **his glory** a **fire** will be **kindled** like a **burning flame**.

<sup>17</sup> And the **light of Israel** will become a **fire** and his **Holy One** a **flame**,  
and it will **burn** and **devour** his thorns and his briars in a **single day**.

<sup>18</sup> And **He** will **destroy the glory** of his **forest** and of his **fruitful garden**,  
both **soul and body**, and it will be as when a **sick man** **wastes away**.

<sup>19</sup> And the **rest** of the **trees** of his **forest** will be **so small** in **number**  
that a **child** could **write them down**.

### 3) The **Preservation** of Israel’s **Remnant** (10:20-23)

<sup>20</sup> Now it will come about in **that day** that the **remnant** of **Israel**,  
and those of the **house of Jacob** who have **escaped**,  
will **never again rely** on the one who **struck them**,  
but will **truly rely** on the **LORD**, the **Holy One of Israel**.

<sup>21</sup> A **remnant** will **return**, the **remnant** of **Jacob**, to the **mighty God**.

<sup>22</sup> For though your people, **O Israel**, may be like the **sand** of the **sea**,  
*Only* a **remnant** within them will **return**;  
a **destruction** is **determined**, overflowing with **righteousness**.

<sup>23</sup> For a **complete destruction**, one that is **decreed**,  
the **Lord GOD of hosts** will execute in the midst of the **whole land**.

### 4) The **Prediction** of Assyria’s **Destruction** (10:24-34)

<sup>24</sup> Therefore thus says the **Lord GOD of hosts**,

“O My people who dwell in Zion, do not fear the Assyrian who strikes you with the rod and lifts up his staff against you, the way Egypt *did*.”

<sup>25</sup> For in a very little while My indignation *against you* will be spent and My anger will be *directed* to their destruction.”

<sup>26</sup> The LORD of hosts will arouse a scourge against him like the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb; and His staff will be over the sea and He will lift it up the way He *did* in Egypt.

<sup>27</sup> So it will be in *that day*, that his *burden* will be removed from your shoulders and his yoke from your neck, and the yoke will be broken because of *fatness*...

He (Assyria) shakes his fist at the mountain of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.<sup>33</sup> Behold, the Lord, the GOD of hosts, will *lop off* the boughs with a terrible crash;

Those also who are tall in stature will be *cut down* and those who are lofty will be *abased*.

<sup>34</sup> He will cut down the thickets of the forest with an iron axe, and Lebanon will fall by the Mighty One.

## Tonight's Key Theme The *Sovereign* Power of God

A. Who *sovereignly* used Assyria as His instrument to *chastise* Israel for their godlessness and sinfulness

“Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger and the staff in whose hands is My *indignation*,...” (10:5)

B. Who *sovereignly* declared punishment against Assyria for its arrogance and *over-reach* concerning Jerusalem

So it will be that when the Lord has completed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, He will say,

“I will punish the *fruit* of the *arrogant* heart of the king of Assyria and the *pomp* of his *haughtiness*.” (10:12)

C. Who *sovereignly* promises the survival, and return of a remnant in Israel to their God

Now it will come about in *that day*...

A remnant will *return*, the remnant of Jacob, to the mighty God.  
(10:20a, 21)

# Personal Application

## As **Believers**, we too are “**tools**” *used* by a **Sovereign God** to accomplish **His Purposes**

### 1. Being *used* by God as a **Witness** of His **Gospel Message** to the **World**

...and **you** shall be **My witnesses** both in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and even to the **remotest part** of the **earth**.”(Acts 1:8)

**How**, then, can they **call** on the **one** they have **not believed in**?  
And **how** can they **believe** in the **one** of whom they have **not heard**?  
And **how** can they **hear** without **someone preaching to them**?  
(Romans 10:14)

### 2. Being *used* by God as “**Instruments of Righteousness**”

...and **do not** go on presenting the **members of your body** to **sin** as **instruments of unrighteousness**; but **present yourselves to God**... and your **members** as **instruments of righteousness to God**. (Romans 6:13)

### 3. Being *used* by God as a “**Light**” in a dark world

Do all things without **grumbling** or **disputing**;  
so that you will prove yourselves to be **blameless** and **innocent**,  
**children of God above reproach** in the midst  
of a **crooked** and **perverse generation**,  
among whom **you appear** as **lights** in the **world**,  
holding fast the **word of life**...(Philippians 2:14-16a)

### 4. Being *used* by God in “**making Disciples** of all nations” (Matt. 28:19)

I **planted**, Apollos **watered**, but **God** was **causing the growth**...  
For **we** are **God’s fellow workers**; **you** are **God’s field**, **God’s building**.  
(I Corinthians 3:6, 9)

### 5. Being *used* by God to **manifest His Glory**

Let **your light** shine before **men** in such a way that they may **see your good works**, and **glorify your Father** who is in **heaven**. (Matthew 5:16)

### 6. Being *used* by God as a **functioning member** of the “**body of Messiah**,” His **church**—the **means** by which we **grow** and **mature** into **His likeness**, and become the **living witness** of **His Life** and **Salvation message** **in** the **world**

Now **you** are **Messiah’s body**, and **individually members** of it. (I Cor. 12:27)

And **He (Messiah)** gave (**spiritual gifts**)...for the **equipping** of the **saints** for the **work of service**, to the **building up** of the **body of Messiah** until **we** all attain to the **unity** of the **faith**,

and of the **knowledge** of the **Son of God**, to a mature man,  
to the **measure** of the **stature** which belongs to the **fullness of Messiah**.  
(Ephesians 4:11a, 12-13)