ISAIAH MESSENIAN PROPHECIES


INTRO: Isaiah has often been called the Messianic prophet because he foretold more about the coming, character & kingdom of Christ than any other O.T. prophet. Isaiah lived & died more than 700 years before Jesus was born. His prophetic ministry spanned about 40 years, thru the reigns of 4 different kings of Judah.

For the next few minutes, let us look at some of the Messianic prophecies of Isaiah.

I. ISAIAH FORETOLD THE VIRGIN BIRTH OF CHRIST.
   READ ISA 7:14; 9:6-7
   MT 1:18—23; LK 1:31—35; JN 3:16; Gal. 4:4

II. ISAIAH FORETOLD THE WORK OF JOHN THE BAPTIST IN PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE MINISTRY OF JESUS.
   READ ISA 40:3—8
   Matt. 3:1-3
   NOTE: The reference to Jesus as the Lamb of God (JN 1:29) was probably based on ISA 53:6-7, 11, which we will look at later in this lesson.

III. ISAIAH FORETOLD MUCH ABOUT THE NATURE OF JESUS’ MINISTRY.
   A. His preaching.

   Luke 4:16-21, And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives & recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." [ Isa. 61:1-3]. Then He closed the book, & gave it back to the attendant & sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."
B. His humility and His ministry of miracles.
   READ ISA. 35:5—6; (MT 11:1—6)

IV. ISAIAH FORETOLD THE SACRIFICAL DEATH & VICTORIOUS RESURRECTION OF JESUS.

A. His rejection & death, Isa. 53:1-9
B. His triumph over death, vs. 10—12.

V. ISAIAH ALSO FORETOLD MUCH ABOUT THE ESTABLISHMENT AND NATURE OF CHRIST CHURCH OR KINGDOM ON EARTH.

A. Its establishment. Isa. 2:1-4
B. Its foundation.

   Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; who ever believes will not act hastily. (Isa 28:16).

   He will be a sanctuary, but a stone of stumbling & a rock of offense to both the houses of Israel, as a trap & a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many among them shall stumble; they shall fall & be broken, be snared & taken. (8:14-15).

   NOTE: These 2 passages are applied to Jesus in Rom 9:33; 1 Pet 2:8 and Luke 20:18.

C. The kingdom is for Gentiles as well as Jews.
   READ ISA. 55:3-5

   I was sought by those who did not ask for Me; I was found by those who did not seek Me. I said, “Here I am, here I am” to a nation that was not called by My name. (Isa. 65:1) Rom 10:24

   Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth. (Isa. 49:6)

D. Its peaceful nature. ISAIAH 11:1-9; 35:8-10.
CONCLUSION: About 700 years after the death of the prophet Isaiah, Jesus Christ came in fulfillment of these and many other O.T. prophecies. Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sins so we wouldn’t have to. He came forth from the grave after 3 days to assure us that we too can survive death. He seeks to share with us all the blessings & glories of the abode of God in heaven. They can be ours if we will give our hearts in loving obedience to His will as revealed in the N.T. Scriptures.

Exton, PA, February 8, 1987