

An Overview of Isaiah
Week 1 Isaiah 1-8
What is the Problem?

*“Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity,
offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly!
They have forsaken the Lord, they have despised
the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged.”*

Isaiah 1:4

Main Point: God will not ignore sin for long; but offers grace to overcome.

Historical background:

- Isaiah’s prophetic ministry spans nearly 60 years and 4 kings. (1:1, 2:1)
- Call to ministry (6:1, “In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord...”) was around 740 B.C.
- Lived during the death of Sennacherib (735 B.C.) and the invasion of the Assyrians in 701.

The scene:

- Judah is wicked (1:2-9)
- God’s people are found craving worldly security and pleasures (throughout)
- The holy city is unfaithful (1:21-31)
- God’s desire is faithfulness, not heartless worship. (2:6-21, 8:19)

Book theme: God does all things to glorify His name.

Snapshot lesson: Even in the middle of the worst of sins God offers lavish grace.

Question: How can the rebellious, unclean, corrupt and idolatrous people of God become clean and obedient to God's will and instruction?

- When we encounter God personally, we should be keenly aware of how holy He is and how sinful we are.
- God moves to extend grace to His people.
- Isaiah will regularly point to the coming Messiah who will give His life as the ultimate act of saving grace.

God is...

1. Holy (6:3)
2. Pure (6:2, 5, 6)
3. Way bigger than we think (6:1)
4. Always worshiped (6:2-3; Rev 4:6-11)

God always holds out the hope of healing and restoration even in what appears to be total destruction.