

ISAIAH'S PROPHECIES CONCERNING CHRIST, AND THEIR FULFILMENT

BIBLE TEXT : **Isaiah 7:14; 9:1-7; 11:1-5; 42:1-4; 53:1-12.**

LESSON 364 Senior Course

MEMORY VERSE: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

BIBLE TEXT in King James Version

Isaiah 7:14

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 9:1-7

¹ Nevertheless the dimness *shall* not *be* such as *was* in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict *her by* the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations.

² The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

³ Thou hast multiplied the nation, *and* not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, *and as men* rejoice when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

⁵ For every battle of the warrior *is* with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but *this* shall be with burning *and* fuel of fire.

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of *his*

BIBLE REFERENCES:

I The Miraculous Birth of Christ

1. King Ahaz was promised deliverance by God; a sign was given prophetic of the deliverance of all mankind,

Isaiah 7:1-14

¹ And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, *that* Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, but could not prevail against it.

² And it was told the house of David, saying, Syria is confederate with Ephraim. And his heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind.

³ Then said the LORD unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field;

⁴ And say unto him, Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be fainthearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah.

⁵ Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying,

⁶ Let us go up against Judah, and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, *even* the son of Tabeal:

⁷ Thus saith the Lord GOD, It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass.

⁸ For the head of Syria *is* Damascus, and the head of Damascus *is* Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people.

⁹ And the head of Ephraim *is* Samaria, and the head of Samaria *is* Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established.

¹⁰ Moreover the LORD spake again unto Ahaz, saying,

¹¹ Ask thee a sign of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above.

¹² But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the LORD.

¹³ And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; *Is it* a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 52:10

¹⁰ The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

2. Jesus is born of a virgin, fulfilling the sign,

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

¹⁹ Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

²⁰ But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph,

government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 11:1-5

- ¹ And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:
- ² And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;
- ³ And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:
- ⁴ But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.
- ⁵ And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

Isaiah 42:1-4

- ¹ Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, *in whom* my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.
- ² He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.
- ³ A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth.
- ⁴ He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.

thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

- ²¹ And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.
- ²² Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,
- ²³ Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.
- ²⁴ Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:
- ²⁵ And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

II The Promise of a Great Light

1. The people of Zebulun and Naphtali shall see a great Light, Isaiah 9:1-5;

Matthew 4:12-16

- ¹² Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee;
- ¹³ And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim:
- ¹⁴ That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,
- ¹⁵ The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, *by* the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles;
- ¹⁶ The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

Luke 2:32

- ³² A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

2. Jesus is the Light of the world,

John 1:4-10

- ⁴ In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- ⁵ And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.
- ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John.
- ⁷ The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all *men* through him might believe.
- ⁸ He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light.
- ⁹ *That* was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.
- ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

John 8:12

- ¹² Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

III The Ministry and Sufferings of Christ

1. He was meek and kind in his ministry, Isaiah 42:1-4;

Matthew 12:15-21

- ¹⁵ But when Jesus knew *it*, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all;
- ¹⁶ And charged them that they should not make him known:
- ¹⁷ That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,
- ¹⁸ Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles.
- ¹⁹ He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets.
- ²⁰ A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory.
- ²¹ And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.

John 12:37-41

Isaiah 53:1-12

¹ Who hath believed our report?
and to whom is the arm of the
LORD revealed?

² For he shall grow up before him
as a tender plant, and as a root
out of a dry ground: he hath no
form nor comeliness; and when
we shall see him, *there is* no
beauty that we should desire him.

³ He is despised and rejected of
men; a man of sorrows, and
acquainted with grief: and we hid
as it were *our* faces from him; he
was despised, and we esteemed
him not.

⁴ Surely he hath borne our griefs,
and carried our sorrows: yet we
did esteem him stricken, smitten
of God, and afflicted.

⁵ But he *was* wounded for our
transgressions, *he was* bruised for
our iniquities: the chastisement of
our peace *was* upon him; and with
his stripes we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone
astray; we have turned every one
to his own way; and the LORD
hath laid on him the iniquity of us
all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was
afflicted, yet he opened not his
mouth: he is brought as a lamb to
the slaughter, and as a sheep
before her shearers is dumb, so he
openeth not his mouth.

⁸ He was taken from prison and
from judgment: and who shall
declare his generation? for he was
cut off out of the land of the
living: for the transgression of my
people was he stricken.

⁹ And he made his grave with the
wicked, and with the rich in his
death; because he had done no
violence, neither *was any* deceit in
his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it pleased the LORD to
bruise him; he hath put *him* to
grief: when thou shalt make his
soul an offering for sin, he shall

³⁷ But though he had done so many miracles before them,
yet they believed not on him:

³⁸ That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled,
which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to
whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?

³⁹ Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said
again,

⁴⁰ He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that
they should not see with *their* eyes, nor understand with
their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

⁴¹ These things said Esaias, when he saw his glory, and
spake of him.

3. Isaiah gives a vivid account of the sufferings of Christ, Isaiah 53:1-12;

Acts 8:32-35

³² The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was
led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before
his shearers, so opened he not his mouth:

³³ In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who
shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the
earth.

³⁴ And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of
whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other
man?

³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same
scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

1 Peter 2:23-24

²³ Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he
suffered, he threatened not; but committed *himself* to him
that judgeth righteously:

²⁴ Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the
tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto
righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

IV The Coming King

1. The government shall be upon His shoulders, Isaiah 9:6, 7; 11:1-5;

Revelation 19:11-21

¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and
he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in
righteousness he doth judge and make war.

¹² His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were*
many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man
knew, but he himself.

¹³ And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and
his name is called The Word of God.

¹⁴ And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon
white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

¹⁵ And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he
should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod
of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and
wrath of Almighty God.

¹⁶ And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name
written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

¹⁷ And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with
a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of
heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the
supper of the great God;

¹⁸ That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of
captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of
horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all
men, both free and bond, both small and great.

¹⁹ And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their
armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat
on the horse, and against his army.

²⁰ And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet
that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived
them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that

see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

¹¹ He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

²¹ And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which *sword* proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

Revelation 20:1-5

¹ And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

² And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

³ And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and *I saw* the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

⁵ But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection.

NOTES:

A Sign

Isaiah's prophecies of Christ are manifold; they cover his birth, ministry, sufferings, death, and Millennial Reign. On one occasion, when Ahaz, king of Judah, was filled with fear because Syria and Israel were united against the house of David, God sent his Prophet Isaiah to assure him that Judah would have a deliverer. The Lord told Ahaz to ask "a sign of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above," but Ahaz, with a show of piety, would not ask. The Lord then declared to the house of David: "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). This was a miracle that was to take place, which would be a token of Judah's deliverance.

The Virgin Birth

Over 700 years went by before the sign came to pass, but one day a virgin "was found with child of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 1:18). Joseph, to whom she was espoused, was about to break his engagement with Mary, when the angel appeared to him saying: "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:20, 21).

"Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet" (Matthew 1:22). In spite of the clear account of the miraculous birth of Jesus, the message by the angel, the sign promised by the prophet, and the quotation of the Apostle, many so-called Christian leaders today are denying the divinity of Christ and His virgin birth. They would make Him just a man. These modernistic teachers have gone so far as to re-word the Bible in what is called a Revised Standard Version in which "young woman" is substituted for "virgin" in Isaiah's prophecy. In this and many other passages they have subtly tried to do despite to the deity of Christ. But the facts remain unchanged: Jesus is the Son of God; and the sign given through the Prophet Isaiah came to pass — the great Deliverer was born of a virgin.

The Great Light

The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali were a war-torn frontier infiltrated by many Gentiles; its people were not refined as those of the south of Palestine but were looked upon as being uncouth and sinful. The country was described as a land of "darkness" and "the region and shadow of death." To this "Galilee of the Gentiles" came He that was born King of the Jews, whose name Isaiah called, "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

To those who were used to lawlessness and the ravages of war came the sweet promise: "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever" (Isaiah 9:7). What a ray of light! What a glorious hope to these downtrodden people! The great Light had shone in upon them. To the accusations of the scribes and Pharisees who condemned Him for mingling with sinners, Jesus replied, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:32). Simeon spoke of Jesus as "a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel" (Luke 2:32).

Darkness

"In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not" (John 1:4, 5). The great Light that shone into the darkness of Naphtali was the "Light of the world." But the world was not ready to receive Him; they could not understand the nature of His Kingdom. "We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up?" (John 12:34). "Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet. Others said, This is the Christ. But some said, Shall Christ come out of Galilee? Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?" (John 7:40-42).

From these words of the people we see that they understood part of the Scriptures -- that His was an abiding Kingdom, that He was the "rod out of the stem of Jesse," but they did not know that he was to be "wounded for our transgressions" (Isaiah 53:5). At times they wanted to make him king, and did not understand when He "charged them that they should not make him known" (Matthew 12:16), even though Isaiah had said, "He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street" (Isaiah 42:2).

"A Lamb to the Slaughter"

Truly, Jesus was the One Isaiah spoke of when he said: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder." But the people did not understand that His human existence was only one phase of His coming. They did not know that His first coming must be "as a lamb to the slaughter," as "an offering for sin" (Isaiah 53:7, 10). Yet Isaiah had told them of Christ's suffering and grief, of His wounds and stripes.

One of the many detailed prophecies given by Isaiah was: "And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death" (Isaiah 53:9). This was fulfilled when Jesus was crucified between two thieves -- "numbered with the transgressors" (Isaiah 53:12), -- and when Joseph, a rich man of Arimathea, laid the body of Jesus in his own tomb.

Prince of Peace

Isaiah's prophecies of Christ do not end with the tomb, but carry forth unto that day when "with righteousness shall he judge

the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked" (Isaiah 11:4). We are assured in the Book of Revelation that this is yet to come. "In righteousness he doth judge and make war. . . . And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron" (Revelation 19:11-15). Upon the throne of David there shall yet sit the One who shall "establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever" (Isaiah 9:7). After slaying the wicked with the sword, which proceeds out of his mouth (**Revelation 19:15** ¹⁵ And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. **Revelation 19:21** ²¹ And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.) the Prince of Peace shall take the government upon his shoulders and begin that blessed reign of a thousand peaceful years (**Revelation 20:1-6** ¹ And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, ³ And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. ⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and *I saw* the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. ⁵ But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years)), with those who were willing to walk in the light. "Ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands" (Isaiah 55:12).

QUESTIONS

1. What was the sign the Lord gave as assurance of His deliverance of His people?
2. What are some of the names given to Christ?
3. Where was the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali?
4. When did the great Light shine unto them?
5. When will Jesus slay the wicked with the breath of His mouth?
6. When will Jesus sit upon the throne of David?
7. What are some of the phrases in Isaiah 53 that refer to the Atonement?
8. Give some of the detailed prophecies of Christ's sufferings, and their fulfilment.