

The Book of Isaiah

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Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

This morning we conclude our study in the book of **Isaiah**, this time reading **chapters 49-66**. In these chapters, we see the glorious future that Isaiah saw ahead of his time. **1 Peter 1:10-12** tells us:

“Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven...”

John 12:41, after quoting **Isaiah 6:10**, says that Isaiah “saw [Jesus’] glory and spoke about him.” Indeed, Jerome writes: “Isaiah seems to me not to have composed a prophecy but the gospel!”

Isaiah refers more to the Messiah than any of the other prophets. It is not surprising, then, to find his writings among the most quoted in the New Testament.

Read Acts 8:26-35

Interesting parallels can be drawn between the structure of Isaiah and that of the Bible as a whole. Just as the Bible has 66 books, so Isaiah has 66 chapters. And the comparisons don't end there. The first 39 chapters mark one division of the book – the part that deals specifically with Judah's current status under the Old Covenant. This is the “Old Testament” part of **Isaiah**. The last 27 chapters deal with the messianic prophecies and look forward toward a New Covenant existence. This are the “New Testament” part of **Isaiah**. Even the 66th chapter of **Isaiah** can be paralleled closely with the 66th book of the Bible, **Revelation**.

So let's pull up that comfortable chair and begin reading the last section of **Isaiah** – **chapters 49-66**, which reveal a glimpse of “the glories that would follow.”

Memory Verse

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth and thick
darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises
upon you and his glory appears over you.

Isaiah 60:1-2

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is his Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!