



BIB 322 - 3 credits

Isaiah

Description

An in-depth study of the person, message and setting of the prophet's book. A major emphasis will be placed on the Messianic prophecies and the revelation of Christ in the book.

Texts

Several translations of the Bible; one of them should be the New International Version since that is the translation used by the authors of the text

A complete concordance such as Young's or Strong's

You will want to use a commentary on the book of Isaiah to confirm or adjust your insights and explain anything not clear to you. There are several recommended, beginning on page 213 of the text. Be sure to turn to the commentary only after you have done your own careful study of the Scripture itself under the illumination of the Holy Spirit. Do not depend on it as your primary source of biblical knowledge!

LifeChange: Isaiah by NavPress

[A note about LifeChange books: If you have taken courses in other colleges, you may be surprised and even offended by the texts we have chosen for our intensive book studies. College texts are usually thick, weighty tomes, full of the revelation that others have received from their careful study of the Scripture. Our preference is that you study God's Word for yourself and receive revelation yourself directly from the Author, the Holy Spirit. Others' works should be used for historical, language, and cultural insights and confirmation of what you have received.

The LifeChange series by NavPress is an outstanding example of the *lamad* method of learning. (See the CLU catalog for a further description of "*lamad* learning".) The books are short because they contain only the questions that guide your personal study of the Bible, with some background information. As you answer the questions, you will progress from a careful examination of what the passage says, to interpreting what it means, and finally to

prayerfully discovering how it is to affect your life. Your personal notebook of truth you have discovered in answering the questions will be longer than the "course text" and will be your personal record of revelation knowledge. Take your time, answering every question carefully and thoroughly, and I guarantee you will have a greater understanding and appreciation of the biblical text than you would if you devoted your time to the study of a "college text".]

Objectives

- You will quote the following passages from Isaiah:
 - ✓ Isaiah 2:2-5
 - ✓ Isaiah 9:6,7
 - ✓ Isaiah 32:17,18
 - ✓ Isaiah 49:15,16a
- You will quote Isaiah 1:18-20 and discuss how this passage sets the stage for the rest of the book of Isaiah.
- You will quote Isaiah 11:2-4a and discuss why these characteristics in a deliverer would be important to the suffering Israelites.
- You will quote Isaiah 14:24 and discuss how this theme is developed throughout the book of Isaiah.
- You will quote Isaiah 26:3,4 and discuss the importance of this promise in Isaiah's prophecies of destruction.
- You will quote Isaiah 42:6,7. Discuss how its message explains the history of Israel, and how it relates to the Church and to you personally.
- You will quote Isaiah 54:10 and discuss how the truth of this verse is revealed in the history of Israel and especially the book of Isaiah.
- You will quote Isaiah 55:8,9 and discuss how this truth is revealed in the book of Isaiah.

- You will state the meanings of the following terms: Isaiah; atone for; *nabi*; banner; Counselor; *shalom*; salvation; oracle.
- You will discuss with understanding the meanings of the Hebrew names of God translated as follows: "God", "the LORD", and "the Lord".
- You will give the meaning of the name "seraph" and describe the seraphim.
- You will state the meanings of the names of Isaiah's two sons.
- You will discuss the relationship of the Old Testament prophets to the covenant God made with Israel.
- You will discuss Israel and Messiah as the Servant revealed in Isaiah.
- You will praise God for His Lordship over all the nations of the earth!
- You will praise God for His greatness and mercy!
- You will trust the Lord Who rules over all creation!

Course requirements:

1. Complete all of the questions and activities in the *LifeChange: Isaiah* text. None are optional for this course. Write the answers to all questions, including the Optional Applications, For Thought and Discussion, and For Further Study questions on separate paper and the put them in the "Exercises" section of this Student Notebook so they can be submitted to your instructor at the end of the course. Many of these questions do not have a specific correct answer. They are designed to draw you into dialogue with the Holy Spirit within your heart, to hear what He would say to you though the Scripture. Take the time necessary to quiet yourself to hear from Him.

It is not necessary for you to read the sections "For the Group" (except those specifically assigned) unless you are doing the study with others.

The more time you take in this study, the more revelation knowledge you will receive, which will be with you for the rest of your life. Do all of the assignments with care. It is expected that each CLU Lesson (not text Lesson) will take from six to eight hours to complete. If you are not spending that much time on the lessons, examine your work to make sure you are receiving all you can from them.

Standards for Grading Assignments

As indicated below, "C" or 2.0 level work is considered average. **Leaders are not average people.** You are therefore expected (required) to put forth the effort necessary to demonstrate at least "B" (3.0) level work or higher on all assignments which you submit. Any which do not will be returned to you with input from your instructor on how you can raise your grade to the expected level. **A course grade will not be given until your assignments demonstrate that you have understood the material presented in the course and allowed your life to be transformed by the Spirit and the Word studied** — the requirements for attaining a "B".

Your individual assignments (notebooks, tests, reports) will be graded according to the following standards. These grades will be averaged together to determine your course grade. Remember, CLU is training leaders and leaders are above-average people. Your work will reflect that.

- "D"
 - Indicates barely passing work that is inferior to the average both in quantity and in quality.
 - Manifests a lack of initiative or sense of responsibility or both.
- "C"
 - Average work; either steady work of an acceptable quality, or work of a high quality which is uneven, irregular or fragmentary.
 - May be mechanically or outwardly correct but shows little reflection upon or personal assimilation of the material.
- "B"
 - Intelligently has fulfilled the requirements of this course.
 - Understands the subject matter presented and has applied it to his life in a limited manner but has not really made the truths his own.
- "A"
 - Grasped the material with thoroughness, industry and correctness of detail.
 - Made the material his own by thinking about it and integrating it, using originality, natural ability, and insight.

2. Earn at least a “B” on all Tests (not Self-Tests).
3. Memorize one of the following passages, in addition to the individually assigned verses: Isaiah 6: 1-8; Isaiah 53:1-12; Isaiah 58:6-14.
4. Choose one of the following research projects and submit a paper detailing your work. This paper is to be at least five typed pages in length, and is to be submitted to your instructor at the end of the course.

A. Find and study all of Isaiah’s references to one of the following:

- ✓ righteousness
- ✓ justice
- ✓ peace
- ✓ salvation/Savior
- ✓ redemption/Redeemer

B. Study one of these metaphors:

- ✓ the highway
- ✓ the desert blooming
- ✓ quenching of thirst
- ✓ blindness and deafness
- ✓ chaff
- ✓ lofty trees (cedars, oaks)
- ✓ Jerusalem as a wife/mother/woman
- ✓ the seed (6:13, 11:1; compare Genesis 3:15, 22:18 and Galatians 3:16)

C. Find as many places as you can in which the New Testament writers quote Isaiah. Study the verses in their original context and in the New Testament passage.



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Course Schedule

Lesson One

Assignment to be completed:

Read "How to Use This Study" and complete Lessons One and Two of the LifeChange text. Also read "The Names of God" section on pages 32 and 33.

Memorize Isaiah 1:18-20.

Complete and correct Self-Test One.

Subjects to be explored:

Isaiah's World

Rebels

Related objectives:

- You will quote Isaiah 1:18-20 and discuss how this passage sets the stage for the rest of the book of Isaiah.
- You will state the meaning of the name "Isaiah".
- You will discuss with understanding the meanings of the Hebrew names of God translated as follows: "God", "the LORD", and "the Lord".

Lesson Two

Assignment to be completed:

Complete Lessons Three and Four of the LifeChange text. Also read the "Old Testament Prophets Part One" section on pages 57 and 58.

Memorize Isaiah 2:2-5.

Complete and correct Self-Test Two.

Subjects to be explored:

Pride

The Prophet Sent

Related objectives:

- You will quote Isaiah 2:2-5.
- You will give the meaning of the name "seraph" and describe the seraphim.
- You will discuss the meaning of "atone for", "*nabi*", and "banner".