



# The Book of ISAIAH

## Chapters 46 – 48

### “Salvation—Babylon—God’s Promises”

#### **ISAIAH- “Salvation of the LORD”**

**Date: 740 – 680 B.C.**

**Theme: “Salvation”- Chapters 1 – 39 declares man’s need of salvation!  
Chapters 40 – 66 reveal God’s provision for salvation!**

#### **Chapter 46 - “God’s Promised Salvation”**

**(v1-7) God carries Israel through history**

**(BAAL [BAY uhl] (lord, master) - the name of a false god - A fertility and nature god of the Canaanites and Phoenicians. NEBO - a Babylonian god (Isa 46:1) who was believed to preside over literature, the arts, and the sciences. Borsippa, near Babylon, was the seat of Nebo worship. (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)**

**(v8-11) God declares the end from the beginning (Genesis to Revelation)**

**(v12-13) Salvation in Zion (Jerusalem)**

**- God’s “righteousness” – Romans 10:1-13**

#### **Chapter 47 - “Babylon To Be Judged”**

**(v1-7) Babylon judged by the Holy One of Israel**

**(John MacArthur writes, “The prophet depicted Babylon as a virgin in the sense of never before having been captured. Babylon sat like a royal virgin in the dust, experiencing complete humiliation. The “throne” was gone, taken by Persian power, and the empire never recovered from being robbed of its power, its people, and its name. The former royal virgin is depicted as a slave woman forced to exchange royal garments for working clothes, who must lift her garment to wade through the water as she serves like a slave traversing the river in her duties. Such duties in the E belonged to women of low rank, fitting imagery for Babylon’s fall into degradation.”)**

**(v8-11) Babylon’s false “trust”**

**(“*enchantments and sorceries*” - The practice of magic or sorcery. In the Bible, enchantment is used as a general word that can refer to several different types of supernatural experiences, including fortune telling, calling up devils, and controlling evil spirits. Most ancient civilizations believed in such magical approaches to religion, but the Mosaic Law referred to such practices as “abominations,” forbidding them to the Hebrews (Deut 18:10-12).)**

**(v12-15) Babylon’s false “counsel”**

**(“*prognosticators*” - One who predicts future events by using present signs and omens as a guide. According to the prophet Isaiah, one of the superstitions of the Chaldeans, or Babylonians, was that of the monthly prognosticators (Isa 47:13), who foretold the future by observing the phases of the moon. This pagan superstition probably was related to the practice of constructing horoscopes based on signs of the planets in the heavens. Isaiah made it plain that this type of fortune telling would not save the Babylonian nation from God's certain judgment.) (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)**

#### **Chapter 48 - “God Keep’s His Promises”**

**(v1-11) God’s truth declared regarding Israel**

**(v12-16) Listen to the LORD!**

**(v17-19) Listen, Learn, Live!**

**(v20-22) There is no peace for the wicked!**

**(48:20 Go forth from Babylon! The worldwide proclamation of deliverance, along with the statement that “the LORD has redeemed ... Jacob” shows that it is not the return of a meager 50,000 Jews from historic Babylon while most stayed in that pagan land, but the final redemption of the nation as Zechariah spoke of it in Zech. 12:10–13:1 and Paul in Rom. 11:1,2,25–27:**

– **Zechariah 12:10–13:1**- <sup>10</sup>“And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. <sup>11</sup>“In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. <sup>12</sup>“And the land shall mourn, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; <sup>13</sup>“the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of Shimei by itself, and their wives by themselves; <sup>14</sup>“all the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves.

**Chapter 13** <sup>1</sup>“In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.

- **Paul declares in the New Testament - Romans 11:1,2,25–27**- <sup>1</sup>I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup>God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. <sup>25</sup>For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. <sup>26</sup>And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written:

“The Deliverer will come out of Zion,  
And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;  
<sup>27</sup> For this is My covenant with them,  
When I take away their sins.”

A redeemed Israel is to make a complete separation from the final Babylon and its wicked system, and proclaim to the world the Lord’s grace toward the nation. John repeats this command in **Rev. 18:4**.)1

> **49:1–57:21** This section defines the Messiah/Servant’s prophetic and priestly functions, His equipment for His task, His sufferings and humiliation, and His final exaltation. The word “servant” occurs about 20 times in this portion, which magnifies Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God who was slain to redeem God’s elect.