



Ecclesiastes = "THE PREACHER" or "THE TEACHER"



# OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY: ECCLESIASTES, SONG OF SONGS, AND ISAIAH



**Journey Church Strasburg**  
**Wed. April 5, 2023**  
Chris Vittum

### References

biblegateway.com

Bible Study Timelines (outline and pictures)

Marilyn Hickey, Bible Encounter Series, Seeing Jesus, 2014

Chuck Missler, Learn the Bible in 24 Hours, DVD series

Old Testament Survey: A Christ-Centered Approach to Studying Jesus' Bible, Bethlehem College and Seminary, Minneapolis, MN

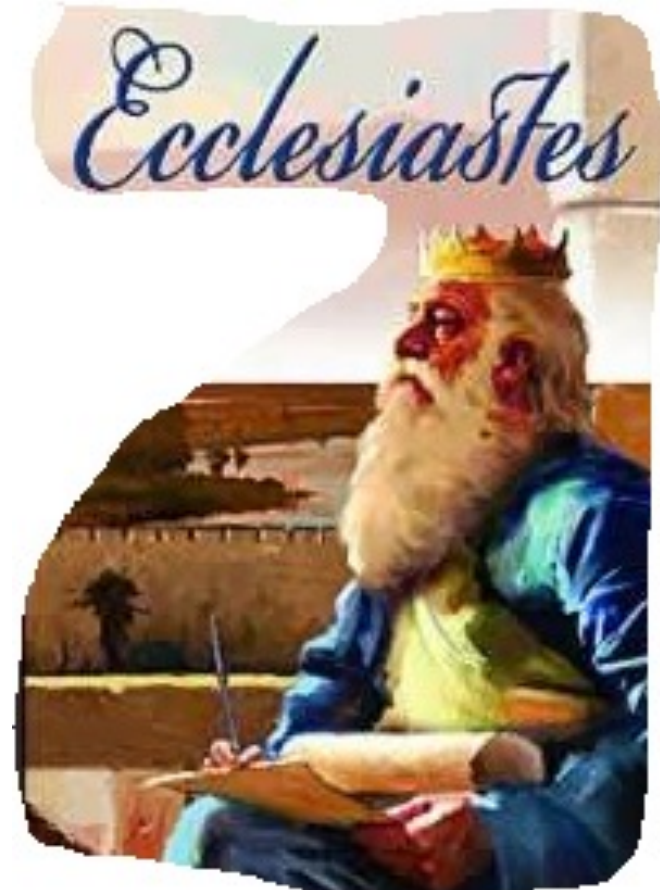
[ec.PDF \(biblestudyguide.org\)](https://www.biblestudyguide.org/ec.PDF)

[The Meaning of Ecclesiastes: 8 Principles for Leaders - Leaders Go Last](#)

[The spoken bible- ecclesiastes - Search \(bing.com\)](#)

# Ecclesiastes- THE BASICS

- **Author: Solomon**
- **Time written: Ruled 971-931 BC, so apx. 950 BC?**
- **Purpose: The futility of human existence apart from God**
- **Division of book:**
  - **Chapters 1-7: Worldly things under the SUN (apart from God)**
  - **Chapters 8-12- “How a life SHOULD be lived” (a life with and under God)**
- **Events**
  - **The Preacher**
  - **Preacher’s search “under the sun”**
  - **The frailty of life and the end of the Preacher’s search**
  - **Acknowledgement of God**



# Life is Meaningless?

- 1 The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. 2 “Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher; “Vanity of vanities, all *is* vanity.”
- Habel
- **Ecc. 1:3-11- SURPRISE!!!**  
**We are NOT in control!**



# Man's Futility without God... under the sun

**Chapters 1-7:** All the worldly things “under the sun” that the Preacher tries to find fulfillment:

- Science (1:10-11)
- Wisdom and Philosophy (1:13-18)
- Mirth/ fun/ laughter (2:1)
- Alcohol (2:3)
- Architecture/ Projects (2:4)
- Property (2:7-8)
- Luxury (2:8)
- Materialism (2:19-20)



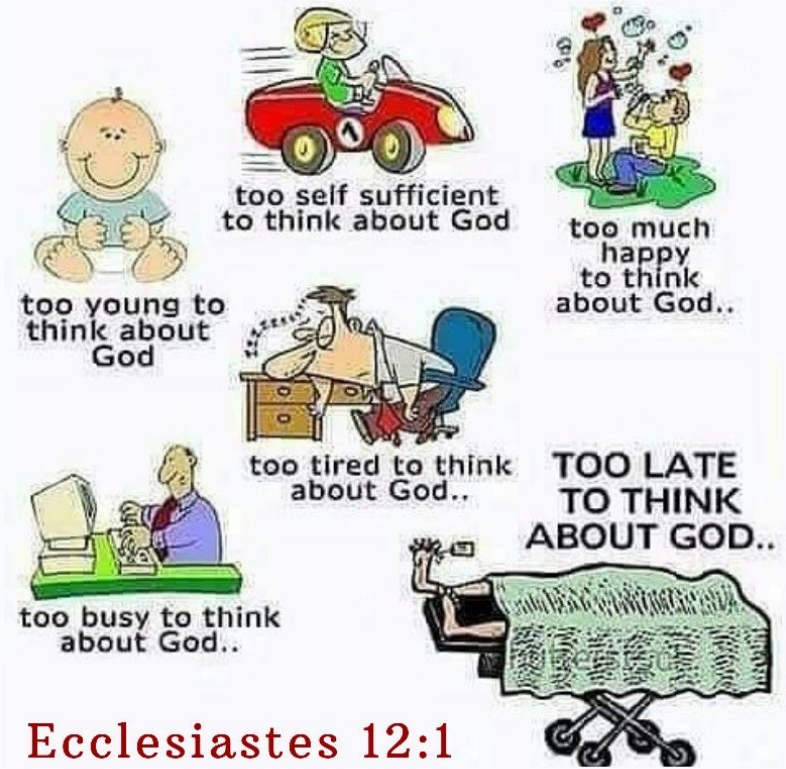
“I dig the ditch to get the money to buy the food to get the strength to dig the ditch.” – Cook County sewer employee.

[Ecclesiastes: The Bible Explained - Bing video](#)

Been  
there  
Done  
that

# How Should We Live?

- Chapters 8-12
  - Wisdom vs. Folly (again!)
  - Without God, there is no truth or meaning to life!
  - Even man's best achievements are worth nothing in the long run!
  - Seek God in your YOUTH!
  - Acknowledge God and follow His will.



## Ecclesiastes 12:1

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come, and the years draw near, when you will say, “I have no pleasure in them;”

# Cycles of Life and Death/ Epilogue

## LIFE... Ecc. 3:1-8

“There is a time for everything, a season for every activity under heaven: A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest. A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to rebuild. A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones. A time to embrace and a time to turn away. A time to search and a time to lose. A time to keep and a time to throw away. A time to tear and a time to mend. A time to be quiet and a time to speak up. A time to love and a time to hate. A time for war and a time for peace”

## DEATH... Ecc. 12:1-7

“Don’t let the excitement of youth cause you to forget your Creator. Honor him in your youth before you grow old and no longer enjoy living. It will be too late then to remember him, when the light of the sun and moon and stars is dim to your old eyes, and there is no silver lining left among the clouds. Your limbs will tremble with age, and your strong legs will grow weak. Your teeth will be too few to do their work, and you will be blind, too. And when your teeth are gone, keep your lips tightly closed when you eat! Even the chirping of birds will wake you up. But you yourself will be deaf and tuneless, with a quavering voice. You will be afraid of heights and of falling, white haired and withered, dragging along without any sexual desire. You will be standing at death’s door. And as you near your everlasting home, the mourners will walk along the streets. Yes, remember your Creator now while you are young, before the silver cord of life snaps and the golden bowl is broken. Don’t wait until the water jar is smashed at the spring and the pulley is broken at the well. For then the dust will return to the earth, and the spirit will return to God who gave it”

SO... FEAR GOD + KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS (12:13)

# Jesus in Ecclesiastes!

- **We should all recognize the “vanity” of all things “under the sun” except for those things done for and with Christ!**
- **Ecclesiastes shows us the frustration and constant yearning for God in a fallen world!** Jesus ends this frustration ... and is the wisdom of God that “fills” this frustration!
  - But to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, CHRIST is the POWER of GOD and the WISDOM of God. – 1 Corinthians 1:24
- *God of all Seasons: 3:1-8*
- *Eternal Creator who has placed eternity in the hearts of His creatures (3:9-14)*
- *Future Judge of all People (11:9 and 12:14)*
- *All Wise Shepherd (12:11)*



# Song of Songs- THE BASICS

AKA Song of Solomon

- **Author:** Tradition says Solomon
- **Time written:** Apx. 950 BC
- **Purpose:** Praises the glories and delights of love between a man and a woman/ marriage, an allegory of Christ and the Church AND Israel and God;

## Division of book:

- **SoS 1:1-3:5** The bride thinks about Her Beloved (? Solomon)
- **SoS 3:6- 5:1** The bride accepts the betrothal and looks forward to marriage
- **SoS 5:2- 6:3** The bride dreams of losing Her Beloved
- **SoS 6:4- 8:14** The bride and her Beloved praise each other in passionate love

## Main Characters and Events

- The Shulamite
- The Daughters of Jerusalem
- The Bridegroom/ Her Beloved



love poem

CH 1-2 THE COURTSHIP  
CH 3-4 THE WEDDING  
CH 5-8 THE LASTING RELATIONSHIP

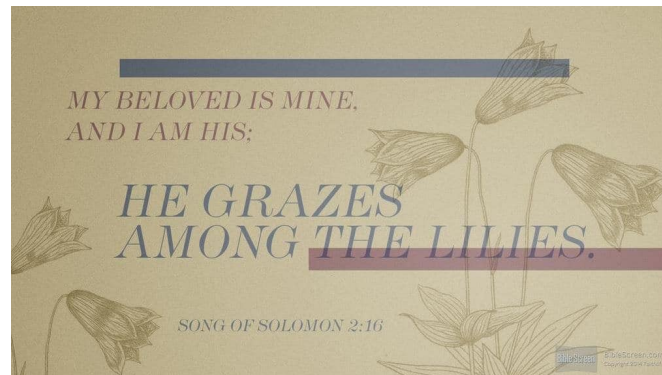


# Themes in the Song of Songs

- It's an Opera!
- Is this Shulamite woman is Abishaq, who nursed David in his final days?

## Themes in the Song of Songs

- Sex is a godly expression of love within marriage.
- Husbands and wives should appreciate each other's good points and compliment them.
- Constant communication is important in maintaining a strong, loving marriage.
- Love grows deeper over the years when both partners are loyal and committed to the relationship.
- The Flame of the Lord
- The Garden and MANY references to that



# Jesus in Song of Songs

- Marriage: Eph. 5:22-31
- The allegory of Christ and His Church
  - You can and should have this kind of intimacy with Jesus
  - No one will ever love you like Jesus does
  - Another picture of a King, Good Shepherd and Protector of his Bride



*the [LOVE] between HUSBAND + WIFE*

PROVIDES THE ANALOGY FOR:

- ♥ 1 GOD'S LOVE FOR HIS PEOPLE
- ♥ 2 CHRIST AS GROOM FOR HIS BRIDE, THE CHURCH
- ♥ 3 A CHRISTIAN'S LOVE FOR THE LORD

# THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

NORTHERN KINGDOM

SOUTHERN KINGDOM



WIFE IS EVIL QUEEN JEZEBEL

JEROBOAM

930

REHOBOAM

NADAB  
BAASHA  
ELAH  
ZIMRI  
OMRI

ABIJAH/ABIJAM  
ASA ♡  
JEHOSHAPHAT ♡  
JEHORAM  
AHAZIAH  
QUEEN ATHALIAH

♡ = FOLLOWED GOD

ELIJAH AHAH

■ = PROPHET STARTS MINISTRY

AHAZIAH

JOASH ♡

ELISHA JORAM

AMAZIAH ♡

JEHU

AZARIAH/UZZIAH ♡ ISAIAH

JEHOAHAZ

JOTHAM ♡ MICAH

JEHOASH

AHAZ/JEHOAHAZ

JONAH/AMOS/HOSEA

JEROBOAM II

HEZEKIAH ♡

ZECHARIAH

MANASSEH NAHUM/JEREMIAH

SHALLUM

AMON

MENAHEM

JOSIAH ♡ ZEPHANIAH/EZEKIEL/DANIEL

PEKAHIAH

JEHOAHAZ/SHALLUM

PEKAH

JEHOIAKIM HABBAKUK

HOSHEA

JEHOIACHIN/JECONIAH

EXILED TO ASSYRIA

722

TEMPLE DESTROYED!

586

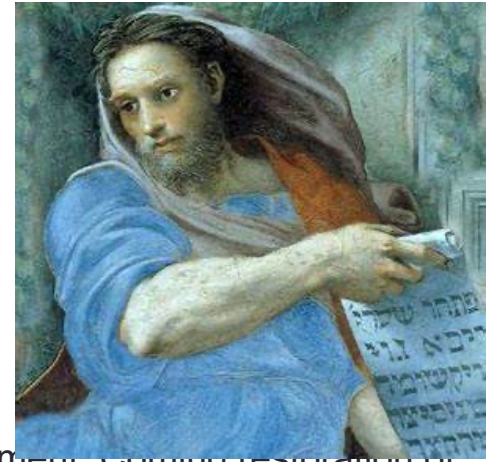
ZEDEKIAH OBADIAH

BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY →



# Isaiah- THE BASICS

- **Author:** Isaiah
- **Time written:** 740-680 BC
- **Purpose:** Prophecy to the Southern Kingdom of Judah and Upcoming Judgment, Coming restoration of Israel, the Coming Messiah
- **Division of book:**
  - **Chapters 1-39** - Sins of the nation of Israel and God's judgement for that sin
  - **Chapters 40-66** - Message of comfort, hope, and restoration. God's faithfulness that He will keep His covenant
    - Chapters 40-48- His Supremacy
    - Chapters 49-53- The Servant
    - Chapters 54-66- The Future
- **Main Characters/ Events**
  - **Isaiah** = the salvation of God
  - **Various Kings**
  - **Southern Kingdom of Judah**
  - **Messiah, Jesus**



# ISAIAH

	<b>The Judgment of God</b>	<b>The Deliverance of God</b>		
		THE SUPREMACY OF THE LORD	THE SERVANT OF THE LORD	THE FUTURE PLAN OF THE LORD
			Servant Songs: 42:1–9 49:1–13 50:4–11 52:13–53:12	
	CHAPTERS 1–39	CHAPTERS 40–48	CHAPTERS 49–53	CHAPTERS 54–66
<b>Emphasis</b>	The law and judgment for disobedience	God's grace and deliverance Comfort . . .                      Promise . . .                      Hope . . .		
<b>“Bible within Bible”</b>	Old Testament	New Testament		
<b>Theme</b>	The justice and mercy of God			
<b>Key Verses</b>	2:3–5; 6:1–3; 53:1–12			
<b>Christ in Isaiah</b>	His first and second advents are prophesied throughout the book (child of a virgin in 7:14, the shoot from the stem of Jesse in chapter 11, the Suffering Servant in chapter 53).			

# Isaiah- Summary

- *Son of Amoz, many say in his 30's when he began to Prophecy*
- Married to a prophetess and had 2 sons (Shear-Jashub , a remnant will return- 7:3 / Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz, quickly to the plunder/ the spoil speeds, 8:3)
- *First of 17 books of Prophets- considered a "major" prophet and often considered the greatest*
- Pre-exile prophet who wrote during 4 Kings of the Southern Kingdom of Judah: Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah
- *Likely met his death under a 5<sup>th</sup> King, evil King Manasseh- many say his death is described in Hebrews 11:37, the prophet who was "sawn in two."*
- Likely lived in Jerusalem
- The Northern Kingdom was taken into captivity by Assyria shortly after
- 66 Chapters- ? Correspond to the 66 Books of the Bible
  - 1-39- Correspond to Old Testament
  - 40-66- Correspond to New Testament
    - 40-48- Supremacy of the Lord
    - 49-53- The Servant of the Lord
    - 54-66- The Coming of the Lord



NORTHERN  
KINGDOM OF  
ISRAEL EXILED  
IN 722 BC

ISAIAH = PROPHET DURING REIGN:

- ① KING UZZIAH
  - ② KING JOTHAM
  - ③ KING AHAZ
  - ♥ ④ KING HEZEKIAH
- JUDAH

judgement + salvation

# MORE Summary : )

- **Primary focus is the coming judgment on the Southern Kingdom due to idolatry, apostasy and wickedness**
- **One of few chapters in the Bible where we SEE the Throne of God and His Glory and Holiness / God CANNOT allow sin to go unpunished (Isaiah 6)**
- **Rise and Fall of Babylonian Empire (Isaiah 36-39)- King Hezekiah**
- **Return of the people under King Cyrus**
- **God's redemptive love for his people after they continued to turn from Him**
- **Messiah will rule/ reign in justice/ righteousness**
- **Prophecies Jesus' birth, death and final redemption for Israel... and us! (Isaiah 7, Isaiah 52-53, Isaiah 63, 65-66)**
- **In Luke, Jesus reads Isaiah 61 when He says, "TODAY, this scripture is fulfilled!".... But IS IT?**

ISAIAH'S WARNING:  
NOT TO BECOME  
ALLIES WITH X  
SURROUNDING  
NATIONS BECAUSE  
THEY WOULD  
WORSHIP FALSE  
GODS- TRUST IN  
YOUR GOD ✓  
INSTEAD!

← 586 BC

ISAIAH PREDICTED IF JUDAH  
CONTINUED TO DISOBEY, THEY  
WOULD BE EXILED!

# Judgment of God: 1-39

- Northern Kingdom and threat of Assyria
- Judah/ Jerusalem
- Isaiah's Call-Isaiah 6
- Lucifer's fall- Isaiah 14 – *discuss in Ezekiel*
- Egypt/Cush: Walk naked for 3 years = Isaiah 20:1-5
- Isaiah & King Hezekiah: Isaiah 36-39
  - Sennecherib's (Assyria) defeat
  - Power of Prayer
  - God keeps His covenant with His people!
  - GOD will deal with the disobedient- not us : )
- Rise and Fall of the new enemy, Babylon



→ GOD WILL SEND JUDAH INTO EXILE ... BUT HE WILL RESTORE THEM

→ THE EVIL NATIONS WILL BE PUNISHED... AND A MESSIAH IS COMING

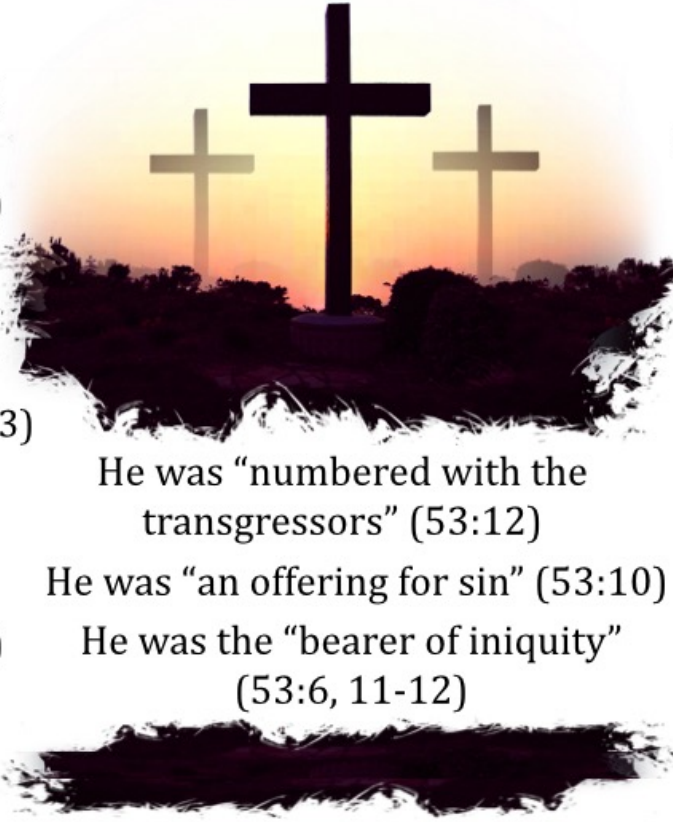


# The Servant Chapters: 49-53

- The 4 “Songs” show the service, suffering, and exaltation of the meek and gentle Servant of the Lord, the Messiah.
- He is a royal figure and the high priest, atoning for the sins of the world.
- Isaiah predicts that this Servant of the Lord would deliver the world from the prison of sin. The terminology of the ancient Near East:
  - A servant was a “trusted envoy,” a “confidential representative,” or “one who is chosen.”
- The Servant Songs are found in:
  - Isaiah 42:1-9                      God’s Spirit, Servant, and Delight
  - Isaiah 49:1-13                      Servant, Light to the Gentiles
  - Isaiah 50: 4-11                      Persecuted, yet obedient
  - Isaiah 52: 13- 53:12              Suffering and Triumph

# The Suffering Servant

*He was not violent "nor was any deceit in His mouth" (53:9), yet...*



He was "marred" (52:14)

He was undesired (53:2)

He was "despised" (53:3)

He was "rejected" (53:3)

He was "acquainted  
with grief" (53:3)

He was esteemed not (53:3)

He was the bearer of  
sorrow (53:4)

He was "stricken" (53:4)

He was "smitten" (53:4, 8)

He was "afflicted" (53:4)

He was "numbered with the  
transgressors" (53:12)

He was "an offering for sin" (53:10)

He was the "bearer of iniquity"  
(53:6, 11-12)

He was "wounded" (53:5)

He was "bruised" (53:5, 10)

He was "chastised" (53:5)

He was scourged (53:5)

He was "oppressed" (53:7)

He was "afflicted" (53:7)

He was "silent" (53:7)

He was "taken" (53:8)

He was "cut off" (53:8)

He was buried (53:9)

He was "poured out"  
(53:12)

*But suffering and death could not stop Him!*

He shall "see His seed" (53:10) \* He shall "prolong His days" (53:10) \* He shall "prosper" (53:10)  
He shall "see the labor of His soul" (53:11) \* He shall be "satisfied" (53:11) \* He shall "justify many"  
(53:11) \* He shall "divide the spoil" (53:12) \* He is our Intercessor (53:12)



## ISAIAH

PREDICTED  
JESUS' LIFE  
AND DEATH  
500 YEARS EARLY



### NAMES FOR THE MESSIAH:

REDEEMER  
SAVIOR  
SERVANT  
EXALTED  
MIGHTY ONE

### THE COMING MESSIAH WILL:

- BE BORN FROM A VIRGIN (7:14)
- CAUSE THOSE WHO DON'T BELIEVE TO STUMBLE (8:14)
- START HIS MINISTRY IN GALILEE (9:1)
- HAVE A KINGDOM THAT WILL LAST FOREVER (9:7)
- BE A DESCENDANT OF JESSE/DAVID (11:1,10)
- BE FOLLOWED BY GENTILES (11:10 / 56:6-8)
- BE CONSIDERED THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE (28:16)
- HEAL THE SICK (35:5-6)
- BE PRECEDED BY A MESSENGER (40:3)
- BE HUMBLE & BRING FORTH JUSTICE (42:1-6)
- ENDURE BEATINGS & BE SPIT ON (50:6)
- SUFFER (53:3,10)
- BE PUNISHED & DIE FOR OUR SINS (53:4-5, 8, 11-12)
- NOT DEFEND HIMSELF (53:7)
- BE BURIED WITH THE RICH (53:9)
- BE ANOINTED BY GOD'S SPIRIT (61:1)
- MINISTER IN PUBLIC (61:1-3)

# Jesus and the Holy Spirit in Isaiah!

- The most comprehensive prophetic picture of Jesus Christ in the OT:
  - The announcement of His coming - Isaiah 40:3-5
  - His virgin birth – Isaiah 7:14
  - His proclamation of the good news – Isaiah 61:1
  - His sacrificial death – Isaiah 52:13–53:12
  - His return to claim His own – Isaiah 60:2–3
- The Holy One of Israel- appears more than 12x – speaking of the Lord’s majesty and glory and hatred of wickedness and evil
- The Paradox of the Suffering Savior and the Coming Messiah!
  - Isaiah 53 as the Messiah suffering for sin and the apparent contradiction in His second advent, that Jesus will be the conquering and ruling King, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6 and Isaiah 60:2-3)

# Schedule for OT Survey

- *January 4 - Overview*
- *January 11 – Cancelled*
- *January 18 – Cancelled*
- *January 25 – Genesis*
- *February 1- Exodus and Leviticus*
- *February 8 – Numbers and Deuteronomy*
- *February 15 – Cancelled*
- *February 22 – Joshua, Judges, Ruth*
- *March 1- 1 and 2 Samuel*
- *March 8 – Kings/ Chronicles and Prophets*
- *March 15 – SPRING BREAK- NO CLASS*
- *March 22 – Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther*
- *March 29 – Job, Psalms and Proverbs*
- *April 5 – Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs and Isaiah*
- **April 12- Jeremiah and Lamentations**
- **April 19- Ezekiel, Daniel**
- **April 26 – NO CLASS - Chris out of town**
- **May 3 – Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah**
- **May 10- NO CLASS- Awards for Boys/ Girls Clubs**
- **May 17 – Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk**
- **May 24- Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi**

**ALL dates are ESTIMATES  
depending on weather and pace  
of previous classes!**