

# Syllabus for Exposition of Isaiah (OTL 811)

Front Range Bible Institute  
Instructor Peter Wise (Fall 2020)

## I. Class Goals

- A. To understand the overall message of the Book of Isaiah both in its historical context and in its wider sphere of application
- B. To be able to identify the broad themes in this book
- C. To understand the figures of speech and poetic devices in Isaiah
- D. To understand the typico-prophetic elements within the book, and how they point to important eschatological realities
- E. To see how the earthly ministry and sufferings of Christ were clearly predicted
- F. To see how the gospel message of the New Testament was foretold by Isaiah
- F. To see how Isaiah compellingly presents the deity of Christ, which can be used as a powerful apologetic against cult members today
- G. To see how Isaiah presents in vivid detail, the eschatological events at the end of the age: salvation of the remnant of Israel, destruction of Israel's enemies, the return of Christ, and the establishment of His kingdom rule upon the earth, along with the attendant return to paradise conditions

## II. Textbooks

- A. Unger, Merrill. *Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament*. (Free pdf.)
- B. Wolf, Herbert. *Interpreting Isaiah: The Suffering and Glory of the Messiah*.
- C. Dane, Timothy. *The Prophets of Israel: Isaiah*. Optional supplementary reading, recommended for select passages. This manuscript will be provided to the student in pdf format.

## III. Class Requirements

- A. Read/skim the Book of Isaiah
- B. Read all of the class textbook, *Interpreting Isaiah*, by Herbert Wolf
- C. Complete the study questions for Isaiah
- D. Complete two short studies/presentations/projects:
  1. Anti-cults theological study based on the Person and attributes of God from Isaiah 40-48
  2. Project of your choice:
    - A study of the gospel in Isaiah
    - A study of faith in Isaiah
    - A study of eschatology in Isaiah
    - A study of some Messianic prophecies

Rather than being formal research papers, these are to be *practical studies* that you can actually use. They may be in the form of Bible studies, tracts, sermons, or sets of outlines. You are allowed creative leeway in the format. You must use at least six Scripture references in each.

## IV. Grading

- A. 20% - Class projects
- B. 30% - Study questions
- C. 40% - Readings

Grade will be lowered for syllabus not completed on time, or for incomplete reading of Isaiah, syllabus, or textbook.

This class is designed to be a practical study of Isaiah that will strengthen your faith, increase your sense of God’s majesty, help you in your walk with the Lord, enable you to see more of God’s plan and purpose, and maximize your witness.

## V. Class Schedule

Class #	Topic
1	Introduction to the Book of Isaiah - introduction, course requirements, hermeneutical matters, authorship, key chapters, historical background, bibliography
2	Chapters 1-6 – Outline, the use of similes and metaphors in chapter 1, the case against Israel (chs. 1 & 5), the call of Isaiah (ch. 6). Explanation of project #1: anti-cults paper focusing on the nature of God and the deity of Christ
3	Chapters 7-12 – Book of Immanuel
4	Chapters 13-24 - Judgment of the nations, culminating in final apocalyptic conflagration
5	Chapters 25-30 – Eschatology, explanation of project #2
6	Chapters 32-39 – The historical interlude, the life of Isaiah, key chapters, Babylon
7	Chapters 40-44 – God, false gods, the nation, the first Servant passage
8	Chapters 45-48 – Servant passages, pt. 3
9	Chapters 49-53 – Servant passages, pt. 3
10	Chapters 54-59 – Various topics
11	Chapters 60-66 – New heavens and new earth

## VI. Assignment Schedule for textbook reading of *Interpreting Isaiah*, by Wolf

Class #	Introductory Matters
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 1 – The World of Isaiah</li> <li>• Ch. 2 – The Authorship of Isaiah</li> <li>• Ch. 3 – The Structure of Isaiah</li> <li>• Ch. 5 – Opening Messages and the Call of Isaiah (1:1-6:13)</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 4 – The Poetry of Isaiah</li> <li>• Ch. 6 – The Rule of Assyria and the Messiah (7:1-12:6)</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 7 – Oracles Against the Nations (Oracles Against the Nations)</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 8 – The Apocalypse (24:1-27:13)</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 9 – Book of Woes and Restoration (28:1-35:10)</li> </ul>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 10 – Historical Interlude (36:1-39:8)</li> <li>• Ch. 14 – Christology (34pp)</li> </ul>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 11 – Deliverance from Babylon (40:1-48:22)</li> </ul>
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 12 – The Ministry of the Servant of the Lord (49:1-57:21)</li> </ul>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 13 – Ultimate Blessing for God’s People (58:1-66:24)</li> </ul>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch. 14 – Eschatology (24pp)</li> </ul>