



# my grandma time

...doing simple things together!

Week 30, Day 1 --- Isaiah 31-34

Week 30, Day 2 --- Isaiah 35-36

Week 30, Day 3 --- Isaiah 37-39 - Psalm 76

Week 30, Day 4 --- Isaiah 40-43

Week 30, Day 5 --- Isaiah 44-48

Week 30, Day 6 --- 2 Kings 18:9-19:37 - Psalm 46 - Psalm 80 - Psalm 135

Week 30, Day 7 --- Isaiah 49-53

Week 30, Day 1 --- Isaiah 31-34

There are righteous people who seek God in Judah. Isaiah is prophesying about a time that is very soon. God will rescue Jerusalem and then shortly after than Jerusalem will fall. The righteous will survive to become the remnant that will rebuild the nation. The evil people who don't care about God will be destroyed. As you read through this does God seem unreasonable to you in what He desires?

Week 30, Day 2 --- Isaiah 35-36

Here we are in the middle of the book and God provides an oasis. He reminds us through Isaiah that history is moving somewhere and that direction is toward God. God is in charge and He will bring His people to a place of security, safety, and prosperity. Then in the very next chapter Isaiah turns from prophecy to history and tells the story of Assyria's attack on Jerusalem. The Assyrians couldn't just march into the city. It was going to require a long siege to defeat Jerusalem. So, the king of Assyria sends negotiators to the king of Israel to see if there is anyway to avoid the cost of the siege. Try to put yourself in the position of the people of Jerusalem. How would you want the king to respond? How do you think the king will respond? How do you think God will respond to the challenge that is given to Him?

Week 30, Day 3 --- Isaiah 37-39 - Psalm 76

Hezekiah was a good king. If you simply looks at the record of the sins they committed you would say that Hezekiah was a much better person than David. In God's eyes there is no comparison. David committed adultery and murder, but he trusted completely in God and continually sought to know God better. Hezekiah never committed a sin as obvious as David's, but his trust was in God only when he was in trouble.

Here is a really important message from Hezekiah to Isaiah:

They told him, "This is what Hezekiah says: This day is a day of distress and rebuke and disgrace, as when children come to the point of birth and there is no strength to deliver them. <sup>4</sup> It may be that the LORD your God will hear the words of the field commander, whom his master, the king of Assyria, has sent to ridicule the living God, and that he will rebuke him for the words the LORD your God has heard. Therefore pray for the remnant that still survives." Isaiah 37:3,4

Rather than saying to Isaiah “the LORD my God”, Hezekiah says, “the LORD your God”. I don’t want to make Hezekiah out to be a bad king. He was one of the best kings that Judah ever had, but he didn’t seek God all the time and that was not only his downfall, but the downfall of the nation. What do you think was Hezekiah’s greatest sin based on the end of chapter 39?

#### Week 30, Day 4 --- Isaiah 40-43

I don’t know your taste in music. I love all kinds. I don’t know if you’ve ever heard Handel’s Messiah. It is an incredible choral piece and has been sung and recorded many times. I’ve even had the privilege to stand by my wife as she sang along. One of the great songs written by Handel was taken from Isaiah 40. In these four chapters Isaiah swings back and forth between the great hope of the Messiah and the tremendous disappointment God has in the people of Israel. After you’ve read through the whole portion for today go back and read chapter 40 again. There is great hope there.

<sup>28</sup> Do you not know?  
Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He will not grow tired or weary,  
and his understanding no one can fathom.

<sup>29</sup> He gives strength to the weary  
and increases the power of the weak.

<sup>30</sup> Even youths grow tired and weary,  
and young men stumble and fall;

<sup>31</sup> but those who hope in the LORD  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:28-31 (NIV)

When life is not going well, these are verses to hang onto.

#### Week 30, Day 5 --- Isaiah 44-48

Who is God? When Isaiah writes these chapters the Jews in Jerusalem are being threatened with captivity by the Babylonians. The inhabitants of Jerusalem who are not killed will be made slaves and taken away to Babylon. There they will be encouraged to worship idols. God promises that the Babylonians will themselves be destroyed and then the Jews are to return to their own land. The people do not want to go into captivity, but they will become comfortable in Babylon and will not want to return.

These chapters contain some incredible comparisons between God and idols. If you have ever wondered why Christians are so convinced that Jesus is the only way to eternal life then look at this verse that is repeated over and over in these chapters.

Isaiah 45:22 "Turn to me and be saved,  
all you ends of the earth;  
for I am God, and there is no other.

What do you learn about God from these chapters? Write down as many of God's characteristics as you can.

Week 30, Day 6 --- 2 Kings 18:9-19:37 - Psalm 46 - Psalm 80 - Psalm 135

It might seem like there is a mistake and that you've read this before. You have read part of it before, but in the Chronicles version. I already commented there and won't repeat my comments. I do want to draw your attention to a verse in one of the psalms.

Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth."

As I write this morning I have many things going through my mind. I am thinking like everything depends on me when it doesn't. I need to be still and listen for God, knowing that He is God. He is in control and He alone is worthy of praise.

Week 30, Day 7 --- Isaiah 49-53

I am studying Daniel right now and it is interesting how this reading ties in with that study. The people of Judah would go into exile. While in exile they would be tempted to give up the law and become like the Babylonians. God is calling them through Isaiah to remain faithful because they are going to return.

Who did you think of as you read Isaiah 53? Remember that this was written over 500 years before Jesus' birth. I always wonder as I read this chapter how faithful Jews could have missed Jesus.