

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 06 Sept	Isaiah 01-05	God Comforts
2) 13 Sept	Isaiah 06	God Sends
3) 20 Sept	Isaiah 07-22	God Promises
4) 27 Sept	Isaiah 23-24	God Reigns
5) 04 Oct	Isaiah 25-30	God Saves
6) 11 Oct	Isaiah 31-36	God Protects
7) 18 Oct	Isaiah 37-39	God Listens
8) 25 Oct	Isaiah 40-44	God Renews
9) 01 Nov	Isaiah 45-48	God Acts
10) 08 Nov	Isaiah 49-52	God Comforts
11) 15 Nov	Isaiah 53-57	God Justifies
12) 22 Nov	Isaiah 58-64	God Expects
13) 29 Nov	Isaiah 65-66	God Restores

INTRODUCTION

- In these chapters we see no idols can do what God does – declaring the end from the beginning; More sober prophecies against Babylon – they may profit for a time, but they delude themselves; and for Judah, God teaches them to profit – if they would only obey

Lifeway's ETB Focus: **Isaiah 46-3-13**

OPENING QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- If God is not 1st place in our life, then we are worshiping idols:
 True | False | Maybe | Don't Know | Don't Care
- How can we tell if God does reign supreme in our life?
 We are blessed with riches and happiness 24x7
 We are given poverty and sorrow, persecution and pain
 We live obediently, and whatever comes our way we glorify God

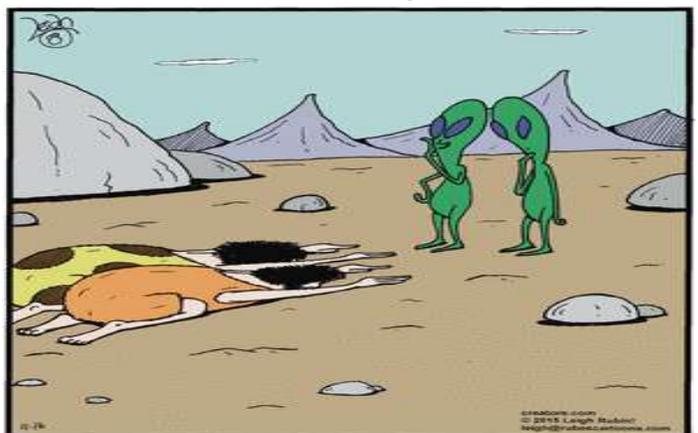
Passage	Comments
Isaiah 45:1-25	<p>There is No Other God & Savior Except Me... vv5-6, 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vv1-4. Cyrus Prophecy– “So that you may know it is I” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> God uses fulfilled prophecies, not handwriting in the sky, to reveal Himself. Else people would be forced to go to Heaven. Subjective prophecies give people wiggle room not to believe. v7. God had to create darkness, & He sends good times and the bad; prosperity & recession Ecc 7:14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does this mean God creates evil as some believe? NO! But when men perform evil, it does not take God by surprise, and He is prepared to deal with it. vv9-10. Woe to him who strives with his Maker! God scolded Job in 2 chaps for striving with Him . Job 38-39 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We sometimes need to see the big picture Life is not about us! v15. God is a God who hides himself. Why, and from whom? Probably to keep from forcing Himself on those who want a loophole not to believe v17. Israel will be savedRom 11:26 vv12, 18. God created the Earth and the Earth only to be inhabited. Sorry, no Klingons! Christ only died once for only one people group – mankind .. 1Pet 3:18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carl Sagan, a famous and outspoken evolutionist, estimated that the chance of life evolving on any given single planet, like the Earth, is one chance in 1 x 10^{2,000,000,000}. If anything was ever impossible, spontaneous generation would have to be it. Recall it was man's fall and man's fall alone that corrupted God's entire creation Gen 3 v23. Eventually every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall give praise to God. BETTER DAYS ARE COMING FOR US – ASSUMING GOD IS OUR LORD v25. Better Days are coming for Israel. Eventually they will be made clean (be justified) and will glorify God.

Passage	Comments
46:1-13	<p>I Am God – There is No One Like Me v9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> God calls His kids (Israel) some telling names <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v3. He begins with a noble name, “O House of Jacob” – to try to get their attention v8. Then God calls them “Transgressors” to wake them out of their stupor & to “Remember the Past” v12. Finally, God calls His kids, “Stubborn-minded” as if to seal their fate since they are not righteous and with no intentions to repent and return to God vv10-11. God may hide himself (45:15), but He gives sufficient prophecies to remove all doubt v13. As horrible as Israel might be toward God, God still remains close by to grant them salvation quickly should they choose to seek Him out What Love!
47:1-15	<p>God's Name is Redeemer, Lord of Hosts, the Holy One of Israel v4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vv6-11. Ultimately, it was God, not Satan, not Babylon, who profaned (NASB), polluted (KJ), desecrated (NIV) Israel. But Babylon would pay for her cruelty to Israel. vv7, 8, 10. Notice the wicked do not consider the consequences of their actions (Lam 1:9); and their fleshly wisdom and knowledge deludes them <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hence the need to have God's wisdom Prov 1 vv13-15. If one doesn't believe in God, they will believe in something else, even astrology & witchcraft
48:1-22	<p>God is the First and the Last.....v12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vv3-8. Reasons for prophecies? To either break the obstinate neck or to seal it vv9-11. What has priority? God's honor? Or our desires? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider this. God holds both His Name and His Word as most Holy and above all thingsPs 138:2 v13. I have stretched out the Heavens. Why does God emphasize this concept repeatedly (6x between chaps 40-51)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider this. God's key characteristics of being Eternal, All Powerful, All Knowing, and being a God of Love and Justice, is displayed in His still-expanding Universe – if only we had eyes to see and ears to hear. vv17-19. God is able to teach His people to “profit” – if only they (we) would listen/obey. IOW, we would be recipients of more blessings if only we did things God's way and not ours.

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- God doesn't force Himself on anyone, yet He gives substantiated evidence through fulfilled prophecies for us to make an intelligent decision to believe in him and be a vibrant witness for Him

NEXT WEEK: Isaiah 49-52. The Suffering Messiah is introduced.



"AT HOME, I'M THE GUY WHO TAKES OUT THE GARBAGE. HERE, I'M A GOD. ...BEST PLANET EVER!"