

**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 40-45	God Renews
9) 01 Nov	Isaiah 46-48	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**

- Numerous issues are addressed in these 7 chapters: 1) Take your spiritual life up a notch with a periodic fast & replace food with prayer, praise, and study; 2) God wants to rescue His people, but their sins prevent Him, so He hardens their heart; and 3) God acts in behalf of those who wait for Him.

**Lifeway's ETB Focus:** ..... **Isaiah 58:1-12**

Passage	Comments
Isaiah 58:1-14	<p><b>Why Fast? Why Keep the Sabbath?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Israel seems to have a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde personality. Sometimes they are portrayed as a righteous people worthy of God's attention, and other times as the worst sinners on the planet and worthy of His wrath.</li> <li>vv1-2. Here, Israel's seemingly righteous character is a ruse, as they pretentiously seek after God on a daily basis. BUT their facade needed to be challenged, their sins exposed. Who should declare their transgressions? Should our sins be openly declared/challenged – and by whom? <input type="checkbox"/> Preacher? <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon? <input type="checkbox"/> Friend? <input type="checkbox"/> Family? <input type="checkbox"/> Other?                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When is it appropriate to challenge sin? ..... <b>Eph 5:11</b></li> <li>When is it appropriate to ignore sin? ..... <b>1Peter 4:8</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>vv3-4. God exposed the obvious – they only obeyed or fasted when it profited them, never out of love for their Lord.                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Another term for it is legalism, or giving God "lip service" (<b>Isa 29:13</b>) or "feigned obedience" (<b>Ps 66:3</b>) ..... <b>Mat 15:8</b></li> <li>A wicked heart is at the core of their deeds ... <b>Rom 3:10-18</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>vv5-12. God highlights the benefits of a purposeful, godly fast                     <p><b>Fasting God's Way</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To humble one's self before a holy God ..... v5</li> <li>To win the battle against wickedness ..... v6</li> <li>To bring relief to those afflicted ..... v6</li> <li>To relieve oppression ..... v6</li> <li>To break every yoke/burden ..... v6</li> <li>To share with the hungry ..... v7</li> <li>To restore the homeless/poor ..... v7</li> <li>To cover the naked ..... v7</li> <li>To resolve personal issues ..... v7</li> </ul> <p><b>Results of a Godly 1-day Fast</b>..... v5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hope is seen ..... v8</li> <li>Health is restored ..... v8</li> <li>Righteousness is restored ..... v8</li> <li>God's glory is proclaimed ..... v8</li> <li>Prayers are answered ..... v9</li> <li>Gloom &amp; despair replaced with hope ..... v10</li> <li>God promises to lead, strengthen, and bless ..... v11</li> <li>Goals are accomplished ..... v12</li> </ul> </li> <li>vv13-14. Keeping God's Sabbath with the right attitude (not with a legalistic intent) allows God to fulfill His covenant with Israel. How does this apply to us non-Jews? <input type="checkbox"/> It doesn't; <input type="checkbox"/> It has spiritual meaning only; <input type="checkbox"/> We can still delight in God</li> </ul>
	59:1-21

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vv3-14. We get a glimpse of one's heart &amp; the consequences of being wicked (individually and on a national scale)                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What happens to the minority of righteous people living in a wicked nation? <input type="checkbox"/> They are oblivious to any suffering? <input type="checkbox"/> They suffer right along with the rest of the nation?</li> <li>Consider the following:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It rains on the just &amp; unjust ..... <b>Mat 5:45</b></li> <li>The righteous get what the wicked deserve ..... <b>Ecc 8:14</b></li> <li>Yet there may be exceptions where some righteous ones are removed from the plight of the wicked . <b>Ps 41:2</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>vv15-20. God eventually comes to the rescue of His people, especially "those who turn from their sins" (v20)</li> <li>v21. <b>Remember:</b> God had a unique covenant with Israel. He promised to rescue them, not because they deserved it, but because of His name's sake ..... <b>Ezek 20:44; 36:22</b></li> </ul>
60:1-22	<p><b>One Day Israel Will Know That God is Lord and Savior...v16</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vv1-14. These verses seem to portray the Millennium since Jerusalem and its sanctuary (Ezekiel's Temple) are being financed and even built by foreigners (see <b>Ezekiel 40-48</b>).                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vv11-12. Also note there is still night &amp; day (v11) and some nations get destroyed for not being loyal to Zion (v12), where Jesus rules with a rod of iron (<b>Rev 19:15</b>). That happens at the end of the Millennium (<b>Rev 20</b>).</li> </ul> </li> <li>vv19-20. These verses seem to be during the Eternal New Earth when a Temple and Ark are no longer required since the "Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple" (<b>Rev 21:22</b>), and God provides all the light that is needed (vv19-20), no need for a sun or moon, or night and day (<b>Rev 21:23; 22:5</b>).</li> </ul>
61:1-11	<p><b>The Lord will cause Righteousness to Flow from Zion....v11</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vv1-7. Israel will one day be the talk of town. The afflicted will be healed (partially fulfilled during Jesus' ministry) &amp; prisoners set free (v1); mourning will cease cause wickedness is removed (v2); God will be glorified in Zion/Jerusalem (v3); Zion will be rebuilt with the labor and wealth of other nations (vv4-6); and Israel will be doubly blessed (v7)</li> <li>vv8-11. God will one day make/establish/renew His covenant with Israel (v8); then nations will recognize the high position of Israel has with God (v9); rejoicing will be reminiscent of a wedding (v10); and God will cause righteousness to flow (v11)                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These chapter seems to allude to the Eternal New Earth.</li> <li>HOW would God cause righteousness to flow?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider this. Since God saves us to the "utmost" (<b>Heb 7:25</b>) we won't be able to sin in eternity, which means nothing, but righteousness will flow from each of us. PTL</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>



