Isaiah

The Book of Hope and Comfort
Isaiah -- The Structure

The plan of the Book of Isaiah becomes so obvious when one steps back and examines its contents. The judgment of God is so powerfully witnessed in the first part of the book (Isaiah 1-39) but then slowly but fully God's love and redeeming grace is revealed in part 2 of Isaiah (Isaiah 40-66).
Isaiah -- The Structure

The Bible - 66 books
Isaiah - 66 chapters
The Bible - 2 distinct sections
- O.T. 39 books
- N.T. 27 books
Isaiah - 2 distinct sections
- Part 1 39 chapters
- Part 2 27 chapters
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

Isa 1-39
"The Book of Judgment"

Isa 40-66
"The Book of Comfort"
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

Isa 1-39

"The Book of Judgment"

The Assyrian period - conflict and victory

1. Prophecies concerning Judah and Jerusalem (1-12)

2. Prophecies concerning the nations (13-27)
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

Isa 1-39

"The Book of Judgment"

The Assyrian period - conflict and victory

3. The source of true deliverance (28-35)

4. Historical interlude (36-39)
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

Isa 1-39

Emphasizes sin, the call to repentance, and judgment.

Interspersed is the hope of a promised Messiah and the blessings of the kingdom age.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

Isa 40-66

Emphasizes grace, redemption, reconciliation and restoration

Interspersed are calls for repentance
Isaiah - “The Lord Saves”

“Salvation is of Yah”

“Salvation” occurs 28 times in Isaiah
21 occurrences in Ch. 40-66
9 times in all other prophets combined

Isaiah is mentioned by name 22 times in the New Testament.

References from Isaiah occur 419 times in 23 New Testament books
Isaiah - “The Holy One”

Throughout Isaiah, God is called the “Holy One of Israel”.

25 occurrences in Isaiah, found only six times elsewhere in Scripture

Why the “Holy One of Israel”?
Isaiah -- The Person
Son of Amoz
Prophet to Judah ca 740 BC to 681 BC
Isaiah -- The Person
Contemporary with the prophets:
Jonah, Amos, Hosea, in Israel
Micah in Judah
Isaiah -- The Person

His WIFE is called the prophetess [Isa 8:3]

His CHILDREN are called Shearjashub, "the remnant shall return" [Isa 7:3, Margin], and Maher-shalal-hash-baz, "speeding to the spoil, he hasteth to the prey" [Isa 8:1, Margin]

Their names are prophetic of what is coming to pass.
Isaiah -- The Person
Possibly a priest - commission in the temple?
According to tradition he was a cousin of King Uzziah
Wore sackcloth (mourning) [Isa 20:2]
Went barefoot and naked for three years [Isa. 20:3]
Isaiah -- The Person

The Martyrdom of Isaiah

Tradition (*Talmud*) represents him as having been sawn asunder by Manasseh with a wooden saw, for having said that he had seen Yahweh.
Isaiah -- The Person

The Martyrdom of Isaiah

2 Kings 21:16 (HCSB)
Manasseh also shed so much innocent blood that he filled Jerusalem with it from one end to another. This was in addition to his sin that he caused Judah to commit...
Isaiah -- The Person

The Martyrdom of Isaiah
Jewish narrative elaborating the sins of Manasseh

The narrative concerns Isaiah who makes predictions concerning the evil deeds of Manasseh. An evil priest offers Isaiah freedom if he will retract his prophecies of judgment. Empowered by God’s Spirit, Isaiah resists and suffers martyrdom by being sawn in two.
Isaiah -- The Person

The Martyrdom of Isaiah

Jewish narrative elaborating the sins of Manasseh

Justin Martyr and Tertullian are similarly aware of such a tradition. The familiarity of Origen (about A.D. 225) and IV Baruch (about A.D. 200) with details of the tradition suggests their dependence on the Martyrdom of Isaiah.

Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary.
Isaiah -- The Person

Matthew 23:30 (HCSB)
and you say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we wouldn’t have taken part with them in shedding the prophets’ blood.’
Isaiah -- The Person

Acts 7:52 (HCSB) (Stephen)
Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They even killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become.
Isaiah -- The Person

Hebrews 11:37 (HCSB)
They were stoned, they were sawed in two, they died by the sword, they wandered about in sheepskins, in goatskins, destitute, afflicted, and mistreated.
Isaiah -- The Call

Isaiah received his commissioning in the temple, but the temple was transformed into the throne room of heaven itself.

Vision?

Isaiah 1:1 (HCSB)
The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw ...

a sight (mentally), i.e. a dream, revelation, or oracle Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.
Isaiah -- The Call

Isaiah received his commissioning in the temple, but the temple was transformed into the throne room of heaven itself.

Priest?

Isaiah 6:1 (HCSB)
In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw...

a primitive root; to see, literal or figurative

Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.
Isaiah -- The Call

Isaiah received his commissioning in the temple, but the temple was transformed into the throne room of heaven itself.

Priest?

Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Samuel, Elijah, Habakkuk, Zechariah, Malachi
Isaiah -- The Call

Isaiah 6:1 (HCSB)
In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, and His robe filled the temple.

Isaiah 6:1 (CJB)
In the year of King 'Uziyahu's death I saw Adonai sitting on a high, lofty throne! The hem of his robe filled the temple.
Isaiah -- The Call

Matthew 9:20 (KJV)
20 And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment:

Matthew 14:36 (KJV)
36 And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.
Isaiah -- The Call

Isaiah 6:2-3 (HCSB)

2 Seraphim were standing above Him; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.
Isaiah 6:2-3 (HCSB)

3 And one called to another: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Hosts; His glory fills the whole earth.
Isaiah 6:4 (HCSB)
The foundations of the doorways shook at the sound of their voices, and the temple was filled with smoke.
Isaiah -- The Response

Isaiah 6:5 (HCSB)

Then I said: Woe is me for I am ruined because I am a man of unclean lips and live among a people of unclean lips, [and] because my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of Hosts.
Isaiah 6:6-7 (HCSB)

6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, and in his hand was a glowing coal that he had taken from the altar with tongs.

7 He touched my mouth [with it] and said: Now that this has touched your lips, your wickedness is removed and your sin is atoned for.
Isaiah 6:8 (HCSB)
Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: Who should I send? Who will go for Us? I said: Here I am. Send me.
Isaiah 6:9-10 (HCSB)

9 And He replied: Go! Say to these people: Keep listening, but do not understand; keep looking, but do not perceive.

10 Dull the minds of these people; deafen their ears and blind their eyes; otherwise they might see with their eyes and hear with their ears, understand with their minds, turn back, and be healed.
Isaiah 6:9-10 (HCSB)

9 And He replied: Go! Say to these people: Keep listening, but do not understand; keep looking, but do not perceive.
10 Dull the minds of these people; deafen their ears and blind their eyes; otherwise they might see with their eyes and hear with their ears, understand with their minds, turn back, and be healed.
Isaiah -- The Commission

Isaiah 42:18-20 (CJB)

18 Listen, you deaf! Look, you blind!—so that you will see!

19 Who is as blind as my servant, or as deaf as the messenger I send? Who is as blind as the one I rewarded, as blind as the servant of Adonai?”

20 You see much but don’t pay attention; you open your ears, but you don’t listen.
Acts 7:51 (HCSB)
“You stiff-necked people with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are always resisting the Holy Spirit; as your ancestors did, so do you.”
Isaiah -- The Reversal

Isaiah 32:3 (HCSB)
Then the eyes of those who see will not be closed, and the ears of those who hear will listen.
Isaiah -- The Chronology

Chronology of Isaiah

Why is the call of Isaiah not recorded until chapter six?

Why would the first five chapters seem to relate to the time of Ahaz or Hezekiah?
Isaiah -- The Chronology

Chronology of Isaiah

What will be demonstrated, therefore, is that chronology is not the overriding structural principle in Hebrew writing (and this would include the New Testament as well, because, though written in Greek, it was not primarily composed by Greeks). Rather, chronology is subsumed by more important principles, at least in Hebrew thought: namely, theme and content.

Quartz Hill School of Theology
Isaiah -- The Chronology

Chronology of Isaiah

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Quartz Hill School of Theology
Isaiah -- The Chronology

Chronology of Isaiah

Instead of starting off with Isaiah’s credentials (his call) it starts off with what is most pressing at the time, (possibly the impending attack by Syria and Israel or the attack by Sennacherib) the need for repentance.
Isaiah -- The Chronology

Chronology of Isaiah

The first five chapters are a microcosm of the whole book. God has an indictment against His people. He offers to forgive them if they repent. They will choose their own way which brings consequences. Ultimately God will accomplish His purpose through a redeemer.
Isaiah -- The Chronology

Chronology of Isaiah

The specific occasion of a few parts of Isaiah are clear, for example chapter 7 was prompted by the Syrian-Israelite coalition against Ahaz (734-732 B.C.), and chapters 36-39 were prompted by Sennacherib's invasion of Judah (701 B.C.). The last event that maybe dated in Isaiah's lifetime is the murder of Sennacherib (681 B.C.).
Isaiah -- The Setting

The kingdom of Judah was isolated, with powerful enemies especially to the north. In Samaria, idolatrous kings ruled over the Kingdom of Israel.
Isaiah -- The Setting

North of there, the power of Aram (Syria, KJV) with its capital in Damascus, was a constant threat. Beyond all these was the terrible world superpower, the Assyrians, with their capital in Nineveh.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Uzziah 791 - 740 BC  
Joatham 751 - 732 BC
Isaiah -- The Setting
Jotham - Yahweh is perfect

2 Chronicles 27:2 (HCSB)
He did what was right in the LORD’s sight as his father Uzziah had done. In addition, he didn’t enter the LORD’s sanctuary, but the people still behaved corruptly.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz
House of David
Preceded by
Jotham King of Judah
Coregency: 736 - 732 BC
Sole reign: 732 - 716 BC Succeeded by
Hezekiah
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

2 Chronicles 28:1 (HCSB)
Ahaz was 20 years old when he became king and reigned 16 years in Jerusalem. **He did not do what was right in the LORD’s sight like his ancestor David,**
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

2 Chronicles 28:2 (HCSB)
for he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel and made cast images of the Baals.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

2 Chronicles 28:3 (HCSB)

He burned incense in the Valley of Hinnom and burned his children in the fire, imitating the detestable practices of the nations the LORD had dispossessed before the Israelites.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor
Hezekiah was saved from the flames of the idol by his mother.

Chabad.org
Ahaz - seize, possessor

2 Chronicles 28:4 (HCSB)
He sacrificed and burned incense on the high places, on the hills, and under every green tree.
Isaiah -- The Setting
Ahaz - seize, possessor

2 Chronicles 28:21-22 (HCSB)
21 Although Ahaz plundered the LORD’s temple and the palace of the king and of the rulers and gave the plunder to the king of Assyria, it did not help him.
22 At the time of his distress, King Ahaz himself became more unfaithful to the LORD.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

2 Chronicles 28:23 (HCSB)
He sacrificed to the gods of Damascus which had defeated him; he said, “Since the gods of the kings of Aram are helping them, I will sacrifice to them so that they will help me.” But they were the downfall of him and of all Israel.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

2 Chronicles 28:24 (HCSB)
Then Ahaz gathered up the utensils of God’s temple, cut them into pieces, shut the doors of the LORD’s temple, and made himself altars on every street corner in Jerusalem.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

2 Chronicles 28:25 (HCSB)
He made high places in every city of Judah to offer incense to other gods, and he provoked the LORD, the God of his ancestors.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

Isaiah gave counsel to Ahaz when Rezin, king of Syria, and Pekah, king of Israel, joined forces to attack Jerusalem.

Isaiah 7:3-4 (HCSB)
3 Then the LORD said to Isaiah, “Go out with your son Shear-jashub to meet Ahaz at the end of the conduit of the upper pool, by the road to the Fuller’s Field.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

Isaiah gave counsel to Ahaz when Rezin, king of Syria, and Pekah, king of Israel, joined forces to attack Jerusalem.

Isaiah 7:3-4 (HCSB)

4 Say to him: Calm down and be quiet. Don’t be afraid or cowardly because of these two smoldering stubs of firebrands, the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram, and the son of Remaliah.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor
Ahaz refused the prophet’s advice and appealed for help to Tiglath-pileser III of Assyria.

2 Chronicles 28:16 (HCSB)
At that time King Ahaz asked the king of Assyria for help.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

Ahaz refused the prophet’s advice and appealed for help to Tiglath-pileser III of Assyria.

2 Chronicles 28:5-6 (HCSB)

5 So the LORD his God handed Ahaz over to the king of Aram. He attacked him and took many captives to Damascus. Ahaz was also handed over to the king of Israel, who struck him with great force:
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

Ahaz refused the prophet’s advice and appealed for help to Tiglath-pileser III of Assyria.

2 Chronicles 28:5-6 (HCSB)

6 Pekah son of Remaliah killed 120,000 in Judah in one day—all brave men—because they had abandoned the LORD God of their ancestors.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

Ahaz refused the prophet’s advice and appealed for help to Tiglath-pileser III of Assyria.

Chronicles 28:8 (HCSB)
Then the Israelites took 200,000 captives from their brothers—women, sons, and daughters. They also took a great deal of plunder from them and brought it to Samaria.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Ahaz - seize, possessor

2 Chronicles 28:19 (HCSB)
For the LORD humbled Judah because of King Ahaz of Judah, who threw off restraint in Judah and was unfaithful to the LORD.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah
House of David
Preceded by
Ahaz King of Judah
Coregent: 729-716 BC
Sole reign: 716 - 687 BC Succeeded by
Manasseh
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah (*strengthened of Yah*)

2 Kings 18:3-7 (HCSB)

3 He did what was right in the LORD’s sight just as his ancestor David had done.
4 He removed the high places, shattered the sacred pillars, and cut down the Asherah [poles]. He broke into pieces the bronze snake that Moses made, for the Israelites burned incense to it up to that time. He called it Nehushtan.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah (*strengthened of Yah*)

2 Kings 18:3-7 (HCSB)

5 Hezekiah trusted in the LORD God of Israel; not one of the kings of Judah was like him, either before him or after him.

6 He remained faithful to Yahweh and did not turn from following Him but kept the commands the LORD had commanded Moses.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah (*strengthened of Yah*)

2 Kings 18:3-7 (HCSB)

7 The LORD was with him, and wherever he went he prospered. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah (*strengthened of Yah*)

In 701 B.C. Hezekiah became seriously ill (Isa. 38:1-21).
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah (*strengthened of Yah*)

Isaiah warned the king to prepare for his approaching death, but Hezekiah prayed that God would intervene.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah (*strengthened of Yah*)

God answered by promising Hezekiah 15 more years of life and deliverance of Jerusalem from Assyria (Isa. 38:4-6).
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah \((\text{strengthened of Yah})\)

In the meantime, Sennacherib had besieged Lachish. Aware that Hezekiah had trusted God for deliverance, Sennacherib sent messengers to the Jerusalem wall to urge the people to surrender.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah (strengthened of Yah)

Sennacherib boasted of having conquered 46 walled cities and having taken 200,000 captives. Sennacherib’s messengers taunted that God would not come to Judah’s defense.
Isaiah -- The Setting

Hezekiah (*strengthened of Yah*)

Hezekiah, dressed in sackcloth and ashes, went to the temple to pray. He also called for Isaiah, the prophet. Isaiah announced that Sennacherib would “hear a rumor” and return to his own land where he would die by the sword (2 Kings 19:7).
Isaiah -- Themes

Chapter 1 contains themes which are developed here and in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} part of the book.

Trial
Wife
Parent
Isaiah -- The Message Part 1

Isaiah 1:18-20 (HCSB)

18 “Come, let us discuss this,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are as red as crimson, they will be like wool.

19 If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land.

20 But if you refuse and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword.” For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.
Throughout the book there are references to a trial. The trial of the children of Israel (Judah). God brings charges against them and calls witnesses. God is the prosecutor and the judge. Judah is the defendant. Nature is a witness. Israel (Judah) is a witness (Isa. 44)
Isaiah -- The Trial

Isaiah's vision of the heavenly throne compelled him to proclaim God's case against His people before their earthly throne in Jerusalem.
Isaiah -- The Trial

The purpose is to lay out God’s complaint against His people in the hope that it might bring about a change in their behaviour. In the first chapter He makes a proposal to settle the dispute.
Isaiah -- The Trial

The time?

Ahaz or Hezekiah

Isaiah 1:7 (HCSB)
Your land is desolate, your cities burned with fire; foreigners devour your fields before your very eyes— a desolation demolished by foreigners.
Isaiah -- The Witnesses

The call goes out to the heavens and the earth to hear the charges against God's people.

Isaiah 1:2 (HCSB)
Listen, heavens, and pay attention, earth, for the LORD has spoken: “I have raised children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against Me.
Isaiah -- The Witnesses

The call goes out to the heavens and the earth to hear the charges against God's people.

In Deut. 4:26; 30:19 the heavens and earth are invoked as witnesses to the covenant.

Deuteronomy 30:19 (HCSB)
I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live,
Isaiah -- The Witnesses

In the covenant God made with Israel (Deut 4:26) heaven and earth had been called as witnesses, so it is appropriate here that they be called on to hear the indictment detailing the violation of that covenant. In other ancient Near Eastern literature the gods would be called as witnesses to an important event.

Bible Background Commentary
Isaiah -- The Complaint

Isaiah 1:4 (HCSB)
Oh sinful nation, people weighed down with iniquity, brood of evildoers, depraved children! They have abandoned the LORD; they have despised the Holy One of Israel; they have turned their backs [on Him].

Oh sinful nation - GOY
Isaiah -- The Complaint

GOY

rarely (shortened) *goy*, go'-ee; apparently from the same root as <H1465> (gevah) (in the sense of *massing*); a foreign nation; hence a *Gentile*; also (figurative) a *troop* of animals, or a *flight* of locusts :- Gentile, heathen, nation, people.

Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.
Isaiah -- The Complaint

Isaiah 1:4

**Three** verbs are used to emphasise the severing of the bond between the LORD and his people. They have *forsaken, spurned* and *turned their backs* on him. 'To forsake' (ʿâzav) is one of the most common Hebrew verbs denoting a breach of the covenant (over 100 times), and it is linked here with synonymous verbs 'to spurn' (nâʾâts) and 'to turn the back' (zûr).
Isaiah -- The Complaint

Isaiah 1:4

The third verb (zûr) is rarer than the others, but it does occur in Ezekiel 14:5 denoting, as here, alienation from God. Focus on the Bible Commentary - Isaiah.

zûr a primitive root; to turn aside (especially for lodging); hence to be a foreigner, strange, profane; specifically to commit adultery

Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.
Isaiah -- The Complaint

Isaiah 1:4 (CJB)
"Oh, sinful nation, a people weighed down by iniquity, descendants of evildoers, immoral children! They have abandoned ADONAI, spurned the Holy One of Isra'el, turned their backs on him!"
Then Ahaz gathered up the utensils of God’s temple, cut them into pieces, shut the doors of the LORD’s temple, and made himself altars on every street corner in Jerusalem.
Isaiah -- The Complaint
Worshipped idols
Trusted foreigners
Were unjust
Isaiah -- The Complaint

Isaiah 1:21 (HCSB)
The faithful city—what an adulteress she has become! She was once full of justice. Righteousness once dwelt in her— but now, murderers!
Isaiah -- The Complaint
Isaiah 1:23 (HCSB)
Your rulers are rebels, friends of thieves. They all love graft and chase after bribes. They do not defend the rights of the fatherless, and the widow’s case never comes before them.
Isaiah -- The Complaint

Isaiah 10:1-2 (CJB)

1 Woe to those who enact unjust decrees and draft oppressive legislation
2 to deprive the impoverished of justice and rob my people’s poor of their rights, looting widows and preying on orphans!
Isaiah 2:6-7 (HCSB)

6 For You have abandoned Your people, the house of Jacob, because they are full of divination from the East and of fortune-tellers like the Philistines. They are in league with foreigners.

7 Their land is full of silver and gold, and there is no limit to their treasures; their land is full of horses, and there is no limit to their chariots.
Isaiah 2:6-8 (HCSB)

8 Their land is full of idols; they bow down to the work of their hands, to what their fingers have made.
Isaiah -- The Complaint

Worshipped God in vain

Isaiah 1:12-13 (CJB)

12 Yes, you come to appear in my presence; but who asked you to do this, to trample through my courtyards? 13 Stop bringing worthless grain offerings! They are like disgusting incense to me! Rosh-Hodesh, Shabbat, calling convocations - I can't stand evil together with your assemblies!
Isaiah -- The Complaint
Worshipped God in vain

Isaiah 1:14-15 (CJB)

14 Everything in me hates your Rosh-Hodesh and your festivals; they are a burden to me - I'm tired of putting up with them! 15 "When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; no matter how much you pray, I won't be listening; because your hands are covered with blood.
Isaiah -- The Sickness
Isaiah 1:5-6 (CJB)

5 ...The whole head is sick, the whole heart diseased. 6 From the sole of the foot to the head there is nothing healthy, only wounds, bruises and festering sores that haven't been dressed or bandaged or softened up with oil.
Isaiah 1:16-17 (CJB)

16 "Wash yourselves clean! Get your evil deeds out of my sight! Stop doing evil, 17 learn to do good! Seek justice, relieve the oppressed, defend orphans, plead for the widow.
Isaiah 2:12 (HCSB)
For a day belonging to the LORD of Hosts is coming against all that is proud and lofty, against all that is lifted up—it will be humbled—

Isaiah 3:1 (HCSB)
Observe this: The Lord GOD of Hosts is about to remove from Jerusalem and from Judah every kind of security: the entire supply of bread and water,
Isaiah -- The Judgement

Isaiah 7:17 (HCSB)
The LORD will bring on you, your people, and the house of your father, such a time as has never been since Ephraim separated from Judah—the king of Assyria [is coming].”
Isaiah 7:20 (HCSB)
On that day the Lord will use a razor hired from beyond the Euphrates River—the king of Assyria—to shave the head, the hair on the legs, and to remove the beard as well.
“Come, let us discuss this,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are as red as crimson, they will be like wool.

19 If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land. 20 But if you refuse and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword.” For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.
Isaiah -- The People Listen

King Hezekiah led the people in a period of reform, thus judgement was withheld. Later they returned to their old ways, and judgement came upon them in King Zedekiah’s time.
Isaiah 1:26-27 (HCSB)

26 I will restore your judges to what they once were, and your advisers to their former state. Afterward you will be called the Righteous City, a Faithful City.”

27 Zion will be redeemed by justice, her repentant ones by righteousness.
Isaiah

The Book of Hope and Comfort
Isaiah
The Book of Comfort
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

Isa 1-39
"The Book of Judgment"

Isa 40-66
"The Book of Comfort"
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

Isa 1-39

"The Book of Judgment"

Isaiah 39 ends with the pronouncement to Hezekiah, that after his death, judgement would come upon the nation through the Babylonians.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Judgment"

Isaiah 39:6-7 (HCSB)
6 ‘The time will certainly come when everything in your palace and all that your fathers have stored up until this day will be carried off to Babylon; nothing will be left,’ says the LORD.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

"The Book of Judgment"

Isaiah 39:6-7 (HCSB)

7 ‘Some of your descendants who come from you will be taken away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.’”
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 - 66

The Babylonian/Persian period - hope and comfort for troubled times (40-66)

1. The one true God versus idols (40-48)
2. Salvation through the servant (49-53)
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 - 66

The Babylonian/Persian period - hope and comfort for troubled times (40-66)

3. The future glory for god's people (54-66)

4. The hope for mankind (54-66)
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah is foretelling:

- the exile to Babylon
- the return allowed by Cyrus
- the establishment of a just kingdom
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah is foretelling the work of the Servant, who would:

- bear their sins by his death
- save them from their enemies
- return and restore all Israel
- establish His kingdom
- usher in new heavens and a new earth.
Isaiah - Comfort My People

2 Main sections

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 - 66

Isaiah 40:1 (HCSB)

“Comfort, comfort My people,” says your God.

The words “comfort,” “comforted,” “comforts” occur 13 times in chapters 40-66. Only once in the first section.
Isaiah - Comfort My People

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 - 66

Who wrote it?
When was it written?
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

There are claims that the scroll of Isaiah was actually written by two if not three different authors.

Proto-Isaiah ch. 1-39
Deutero-Isaiah ch. 40-55
Trito-Isaiah ch. 56-66
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Prophecy → Passages of Isaiah 40-66 refer to events that did not occur in Isaiah's own lifetime, such as the rise of Babylon as the world power, the destruction of Jerusalem, and the rise of Cyrus the Great, which is taken as evidence of later composition.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Prophecy → All the major prophets included events that would happen after their time. The ability to prophesy events both near and far away in time was given as evidence that the Holy One of Israel was real and could be trusted.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Prophecy → Isaiah 44:7 (HCSB)
Who, like Me, can announce [the future]?
Let him say so and make a case before Me, since I have established an ancient people. Let these gods declare the coming things, and what will take place.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Prophecy → Isaiah 41:22-23 (HCSB)
22 “Let them come and tell us what will happen. Tell us the past events, so that we may reflect on them and know the outcome, or tell us the future.”
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Prophecy → Isaiah 41:22-23 (HCSB)

23 Tell us the coming events, then we will know that you are gods. Indeed, do [something] good or bad, then we will be in awe and perceive.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Prophecy → Isaiah 46:10 (HCSB)

I declare the end from the beginning, and from long ago what is not yet done, saying: My plan will take place, and I will do all My will.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Prophecy → Isaiah 48:3-5 (HCSB)

3 I declared the past events long ago; they came out of My mouth; I proclaimed them. Suddenly I acted, and they occurred.

4 Because I know that you are stubborn, and your neck is iron and your forehead bronze,
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections

"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Prophecy → Isaiah 48:3-5 (HCSB)

5 therefore I declared to you long ago. I announced it to you before it occurred, so you could not claim, ‘My idol caused them; my carved image and cast idol control them.’
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Anonymity → Isaiah’s name suddenly stops being used after chapter 39.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Anonymity → Isaiah’s name suddenly stops being used after chapter 39.

In the first section Isaiah is personally involved because the events are happening in his time. The Book of Comfort records events that happen long after his time.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

The Dead Sea Scrolls include a complete copy of the Book of Isaiah, thus pointing to its acceptance as one book by the Qumran community in the second century B.C.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?
The Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament in the second century B.C., gives no indication that the Book of Isaiah was anything other than a single book.
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

In the New Testament all the major sections of Isaiah are quoted under the title Isaiah.

John 12:38 ascribes Isaiah 53:1 to Isaiah,
John 12:39-40 ascribes Isaiah 6:10 to Isaiah
Jesus read from Isaiah 61:1-2 (Luke 4:17)
Isaiah -- The Structure

2 Main sections
"The Book of Comfort"

Who wrote it?

Style → There is a sudden change in style and theology after chapter 40; numerous key words and phrases found in one section are not found in the other.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Change of tenor

Tenderness is the overall tone

Isaiah 40:2 (HCSB)

“Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and announce to her that her time of forced labor is over, her iniquity has been pardoned, and she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.”
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Change of tenor

Tenderness is the overall tone

Isaiah 43:4 (HCSB)

Because you are precious in My sight and honored, and I love you, I will give people in exchange for you and nations instead of your life.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 - 66

➢ When was it written?
➢ To whom was it written?
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 - 66

When was it written?

Isaiah began his ministry in the last year of Uzziah’s reign (Isa.6:1) 740 BC

His ministry would have ended by the time of Hezekiah’s death. (Isa.1:1) 687 BC

Were some sections contemporary with “The Book of Judgement”?
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 begins with the instruction to "comfort my people"

Isaiah 40:1 (HCSB)
“Comfort, comfort My people,” says your God.

Comfort who?
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

Comfort Who?

- Jews at the time of Hezekiah?
- Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?
- Jews returning in the last days?
- Jews returning after Jesus comes back?
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews at the time of Hezekiah?
Sennacherib claimed to have taken 200,150 captives of Judah. If so there is no evidence of a return.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews at the time of Hezekiah?

Isaiah 49:14 (HCSB)

Zion says, “The LORD has abandoned me; The Lord has forgotten me!”
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

Isaiah 44:22 (HCSB)
I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like a mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

Isaiah 44:28 (HCSB)
who says to Cyrus, “My shepherd, he will fulfill all My pleasure” and says to Jerusalem, “She will be rebuilt,” and of the temple, “Its foundation will be laid.”
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

➢ Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

Isaiah 48:20 (HCSB)
Leave Babylon, flee from the Chaldeans! Declare with a shout of joy, proclaim this, let it go out to the end of the earth; announce, “The LORD has redeemed His servant Jacob!”
Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

The approximate total of the returned exiles was probably somewhere between 100,000 and 150,000. This was only a small percentage of those who had been exiled and their descendants; the great majority stayed behind in Babylon.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

ii. Indeed, Josephus wrote, “many remained in Babylon, being unwilling to leave their possessions” (Antiquities XI, 8).

www.enduringword.com
ISAIAH

Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

Isaiah 66:20 (KJV)

20 And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, ...
Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

When King Cyrus of Persia proclaimed his edict in 538 B.C., permitting the Jews in exile in Babylon to return home, great excitement no doubt occurred. ... with enormous hope people left and returned home.
Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

Unfortunately, things were not as they had hoped they would be. The destruction that Nebuchadnezzar had brought when he destroyed Jerusalem had not been repaired. The city was in ruins.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

Moreover, the people who had not been taken into exile resented the return of those from Babylon.

For many, the Jerusalem anticipated by Isaiah was a severe disappointment.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

Haggai reveals a people who are starving, freezing, and poor because they have not dedicated themselves to the rebuilding of the Temple.
Jews returning from captivity (Cyrus)?

Haggai 1:6 (HCSB)
You have planted much but harvested little. You eat but never have enough to be satisfied. You drink but never have enough to become drunk. You put on clothes but never have enough to get warm. The wage earner [puts his] wages into a bag with a hole in it.”
Haggai 1:9 (HCSB)

“You expected much, but then it amounted to little. When you brought [the harvest] to your house, I ruined it. Why?” [This is] the declaration of the LORD of Hosts. “Because My house still lies in ruins, while each of you is busy with his own house.
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews returning in the last days?

Isaiah 24:3 (HCSB)
The earth will be stripped completely bare and will be totally plundered, for the LORD has spoken this message.

AD 70, 135
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews returning in the last days?

1948

Isaiah 43:5-6 (HCSB)

5 Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east, and gather you from the west.
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews returning in the last days?

1948

Isaiah 43:5-6 (HCSB)
6 I will say to the north: Give [them] up! and to the south: Do not hold [them] back! Bring My sons from far away, and My daughters from the ends of the earth—
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Jews returning in the last days?

1948

Isaiah 66:8 (HCSB)
Who has heard of such a thing? Who has seen such things? Can a land be born in one day or a nation be delivered in an instant? Yet as soon as Zion was in labor, she gave birth to her sons.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

After Jesus comes back

Isaiah 60:4 (HCSB)
Raise your eyes and look around: they all gather and come to you; your sons will come from far away, and your daughters will be carried on the hip.
Isaiah 60:9 (HCSB)

Yes, the islands will wait for Me with the ships of Tarshish in the lead, to bring your children from far away, their silver and gold with them, for the honor of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

After Jesus comes back

Isaiah 60:11 (HCSB)
Your gates will always be open; they will never be shut day or night so that the wealth of the nations may be brought into you, with their kings being led [in procession].
After Jesus comes back

Isaiah 66:20 (HCSB)
They will bring all your brothers from all the nations as a gift to the LORD on horses and chariots, in litters, and on mules and camels, to My holy mountain Jerusalem,” says the LORD,...
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Whether Isaiah understood it or not, this section describes a progressive return. The final outcome for the Children of Israel was to be long after the return from Babylonian exile.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH 40:1-2 (CJB)

1 "Comfort and keep comforting my people," says your God.
2 "Tell Yerushalayim to take heart; proclaim to her that she has completed her time of service, that her guilt has been paid off, that she has received at the hand of ADONAI double for all her sins."
"Comfort and keep comforting my people," says your God.

Tell Yerushalayim to take heart; proclaim to her that she has completed her time of service, that her guilt has been paid off, that she has received at the hand of ADONAI double for all her sins."
"Comfort and keep comforting my people," says your God.

Tell Yerushalayim to take heart; proclaim to her that she has completed her time of service, that her guilt has been paid off, that she has received at the hand of ADONAI double for all her sins."
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

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Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Comfort Who?

Ultimately it speaks to every generation of God's people (Jew or Gentile) who long to experience the coming of Messiah, to see the establishment of the kingdom in all its holiness and righteousness and to share in God’s nature.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Comfort Who?

Isa 56:1-8 (CJB)

1 Here is what ADONAI says: "Observe justice, do what is right, for my salvation is close to coming, my righteousness to being revealed." 2 Happy is the person who does this, anyone who grasps it firmly, who keeps Shabbat and does not profane it, and keeps himself from doing any evil.
3 A foreigner joining ADONAI should not say, "ADONAI will separate me from his people"; likewise the eunuch should not say, "I am only a dried-up tree." 4 For here is what ADONAI says: "As for the eunuchs who keep my Shabbats, who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenant:
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Comfort Who?

Isa 56:1-8 (CJB)

5 in my house, within my walls, I will give them power and a name greater than sons and daughters; I will give him an everlasting name that will not be cut off.
"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Comfort Who?

Isa 56:1-8 (CJB)

6 "And the foreigners who join themselves to ADONAI to serve him, to love the name of ADONAI, and to be his workers, all who keep Shabbat and do not profane it, and hold fast to my covenant,"
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH

Comfort Who?

Isa 56:1-8 (CJB)

7 I will bring them to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all peoples." 8 Adonai ELOHIM says, he who gathers Isra'el's exiles: "There are yet others I will gather, besides those gathered already."
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 begins with the instruction to “comfort my people”

ISAIAH 40:1 (CJB)

"Comfort and keep comforting my people," says your God.
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort"

ISAIAH 40:1 (CJB)
"Comfort and keep comforting my people," says your God.

Who is comforting?
Isaiah?
Jesus?
God
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah

Through all the centuries since Isaiah’s time his words have brought comfort and hope.
Isaiah 61:1-3 (CJB)
1 The Spirit of Adonai ELOHIM is upon me, because ADONAI has anointed me to announce good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted; to proclaim freedom to the captives, to let out into light those bound in the dark;
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Jesus

Isaiah 61:1-3 (CJB)

2 to proclaim the year of the favor of ADONAI ...
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Jesus

Isaiah 61:1-3 (CJB)
2 ... and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn,
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Jesus

Isaiah 61:1-3 (CJB)

3 yes, provide for those in Tziyon who mourn, giving them garlands instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a cloak of praise instead of a heavy spirit, so that they will be called oaks of righteousness planted by ADONAI, in which he takes pride.
"The Book of Comfort"

God

ISAIAH 49 (CJB)

13 Sing, heaven! Rejoice, earth! Break out in song, you mountains! For ADONAI is comforting his people, having mercy on his own who have suffered.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 - 66

Divisions

The chapters are evenly split into three sections of 9 chapters. They are marked by the way they conclude rather than the way they begin.
Isaiah -- The Structure

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 - 66

ch.40-48 "There is no peace for the wicked, " says the LORD." 48:22

ch.49-57 "There is no peace, says my God, "for the wicked." 57:21

ch.58-66 "Who have transgressed against Me. For their worm shall not die." 66:24
Isaiah 40 - 66

The unexpected closing message of each section confirms God is not solely preoccupied with saving the faithful. He has not forgotten the judgment of the wicked. God wants the faithful to fully enjoy their salvation, but the wicked need to be warned that repentance is required!
God is truly compassionate, merciful and longsuffering but don’t presume upon His grace.
The Holy One of Israel spoke words of comfort and hope to the scattered of Israel. He speaks to us now. In His promise of redemption, reconciliation and restoration, He reveals Himself to us as a God of endless love, ever willing to forgive.
Isaiah -- The Message

"The Book of Comfort"

Isaiah 40 - 66

Isaiah 55:7 (HCSB)

7 Let the wicked one abandon his way and the sinful one his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, so He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will freely forgive.
Isaiah -- The Message

"The Book of Comfort"

God will accomplish His plan

Isaiah 46:9-10 (HCSB)

9 Remember what happened long ago, for I am God, and there is no other; [I am] God, and no one is like Me.

10 I declare the end from the beginning, and from long ago what is not yet done, saying: My plan will take place, and I will do all My will.
Isaiah -- The Message

"The Book of Comfort"

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Isaiah -- The Message

"The Book of Comfort"

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Isaiah 46:9-10 (HCSB)

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10 I declare the end from the beginning, and from long ago what is not yet done, saying: My plan will take place, and I will do all My will.
In Isaiah, God exhibits characteristics of both father and mother. On the one hand He is protector and provider on the other hand He is nurturer and comforter. Even the Hebrew nouns for father and mother are descriptive of action. The Hebrew word for father is (av) and literally means "the one who gives strength to the family" and mother (em) means "the one that binds the family together".
In Isaiah, God exhibits characteristics of both father and mother. On the one hand He is protector and provider on the other hand He is nurturer and comforter.

Isaiah 51:22 (HCSB)
22 This is what your Lord says— Yahweh, even your God, who defends His people— “Look, I have removed the cup of staggering from your hand; that goblet, the cup of My fury. You will never drink it again.
Isaiah --Comfort

Isaiah 40:11 (HCSB)

11 He protects His flock like a shepherd; He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries [them] in the fold of His [garment]. He gently leads those that are nursing.
Isaiah --Comfort

Isaiah 41:10 (HCSB)

10 Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will hold on to you with My righteous right hand.
Isaiah 41:3 (CJB)
3 "Listen to me, house of Yaakov, all who remain of the house of Isra'el: I have borne you from birth, carried you since the womb."
Isaiah 41:4 (CJB)
4 Till your old age I will be the same - I will carry you until your hair is white. I have made you, and I will bear you; yes, I will carry and save you.
Isaiah -- Comfort

Isaiah 49:15 (HCSB)
“Can a woman forget her nursing child, or lack compassion for the child of her womb? Even if these forget, yet I will not forget you.”
Isaiah -- Comfort

Isaiah 66:13 (HCSB)
As a mother comforts her son, so I will comfort you, and you will be comforted in Jerusalem.
Isaiah --Comfort
Isaiah 40 Setting Forth the Outcome
Isaiah 40:5 (HCSB)
And the glory of the LORD will appear, and all humanity together will see [it], for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.
Isaiah -- Comfort
Isaiah 40 Setting Forth the Outcome
All Israel will be redeemed and returned to the land of promise.
The Holy One of Israel is all powerful.
No idol is capable of doing what God does
The nations are powerless to resist.
The “weak” will prevail.
Isaiah --The Trial Resumes

The trial reappears in the second half of Isaiah, written to remind those in exile why this had come upon them.

Isaiah 41:1 (HCSB)
“Be silent before Me, islands! And let peoples renew their strength. Let them approach, then let them testify; let us come together for the trial. (heb. verdict)
Isaiah --The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 41 (CJB)  God asks for evidence
21 "Present your case," says ADONAI, 
"Produce your arguments," says Ya'akov's king. 22 Bring out those idols! Have them 
foretell the future for us, tell us about past 
events, so that we can reflect on them and 
understand their consequences. Or tell us 
about events yet to come,
Isaiah --The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 41 (CJB)  God asks for evidence

23 state what will happen in the future, so that we can know you are gods. At least, do something, either good or bad - anything, to make us awestruck and fearful! 24 You can't! - because you are less than nothing. Whoever chooses you is an abomination!
Isaiah -- The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 41 (CJB)  God presents evidence
25 "I roused someone from the north, and he has come from the rising sun; he will call on my name. He will trample on rulers as if they were mud, like a potter treading clay."
26 Who said this at the start, so we could know, or foretold it, so we could say, "He's right"? In fact, no one said it; no one foretold it - the fact is, nobody hears what you say.
Isaiah 41 (CJB)  God presents evidence
27 I am the first to declare it to Tziyon, to send Yerushalayim a messenger with good news. 28 But when I look around, there is no one - not a single one can give counsel, who, when I ask, can give an answer. 29 Look at them all! What they do is nothing! Their idols are so much wind and waste.
Isaiah -- The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 43 (CJB)  God demands witnesses

9 Summon the nations to come to the trial. Which of their gods can predict the future? Which of them foretold what is happening now? Let these gods bring in their witnesses to prove that they are right, to testify to the truth of their words.
Isaiah -- The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 43 (CJB)  God presents witnesses

10 "People of Israel, you are my witnesses; I chose you to be my servant, so that you would know me and believe in me and understand that I am the only God. Besides me there is no other god; there never was and never will be.
Isaiah — The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 43 (CJB)  God presents witnesses

11 "I alone am the Lord, the only one who can save you. 12 I predicted what would happen, and then I came to your aid. No foreign god has ever done this; you are my witnesses."
Isaiah 43 (HCSB)  God gives the verdict

26 Take Me to court; let us argue our case together. State your [case], so that you may be vindicated.

27 Your first father sinned, and your mediators have rebelled against Me.

28 So I defiled the officers of the sanctuary, and set Jacob apart for destruction and Israel for abuse.
Isaiah -- The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 59 (CJB)  God gives the verdict

1 ADONAI's arm is not too short to save, nor is his ear too dull to hear. 2 Rather, it is your own crimes that separate you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he doesn't hear. 3 For your hands are stained with blood and your fingers with crime; your lips speak lies, your tongues utter wicked things.
Isaiah -- The Trial Resumes
Isaiah 59 (CJB)  God gives the verdict
4 No one sues with just cause, no one pleads honestly in court, they trust in empty words and say worthless things; they conceive trouble and give birth to evil.
Isaiah -- The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 59 (CJB) Confession

11 We growl, all of us, like bears and moan pitifully like doves; we look for justice, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far from us. 12 For our crimes multiply before you, our sins testify against us; for our crimes are present with us; and our sins, we know them well:
Isaiah 59 (CJB)  Confession

13 rebelling and denying ADONAI, turning away from following our God, talking about oppression and revolt, uttering lies which our hearts have conceived. 14 Thus justice is repelled, righteousness stands apart, at a distance; for truth stumbles in the public court, and uprightness cannot enter.
Isaiah --The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 59 (CJB)  Confession

15 Honesty is lacking, he who leaves evil becomes a target. ADONAI saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.
Isaiah -- The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 59 (CJB) Israel’s Plight

16 He saw that there was no one, was amazed that no one interceded. Therefore his own arm brought him salvation, and his own righteousness sustained him. 17 He put on righteousness as his breastplate, salvation as a helmet on his head; he clothed himself with garments of vengeance and wrapped himself in a mantle of zeal.
Isaiah --The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 59 (CJB) Israel’s Plight

18 He repays according to their deeds - fury to his foes, reprisal to his enemies; to the coastlands he will repay their due; 19 in the west they will fear the name of ADONAI, and likewise, in the east, his glory. For he will come like a pent-up stream, impelled by the Spirit of ADONAI.
Isaiah --The Trial Resumes

Isaiah 59 (CJB) Israel’s Redemption

20 "Then a Redeemer will come to Tziyon, to those in Yaakov who turn from rebellion." So says ADONAI. 21 "And as for me," says ADONAI, "this is my covenant with them: my Spirit, who rests on you, and my words which I put in your mouth will not depart from your mouth or from the mouth of your children, or from the mouth of your children's children, now or ever," says ADONAI.
The Message Part 2
Isaiah 40:11 (CJB)
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering his lambs with his arm, carrying them against his chest, gently leading the mother sheep."
Isaiah
The Book of Comfort
The Book of Comfort

Isaiah

The Book of Comfort
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The “Servant Songs.”
If we say the Old Testament is jewelry, Isaiah is certainly the best ring among them. And if Isaiah is that ring, the Servant songs are definitely the diamond on the ring.

Focus On The Bible - Isaiah
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

The Servant songs (also called the Servant poems or the Songs of the Suffering Servant) are songs in the Book of Isaiah. They were first identified by Bernhard Duhm in his 1892 commentary on Isaiah. The songs are four poems written about a certain "servant of YHWH."
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

For over a hundred years these passages (42:1-9; 49:1-12; 50:4-9; 52:13-53:12) have been designated by this descriptive title. No evidence exists that they were ever sung, but certainly they are poetic passages that speak of 'the servant'. 
Some scholars regard Isaiah 61:1-3 as a fifth servant song, although the word "servant" is not mentioned in the passage.
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

The Servant serves as the focus of hope in these chapters. Because of this Servant, God’s people can be assured and comforted that He has not forsaken them. In fact, the Servant will ultimately lead all nations to serve God. Slowly the Servant is introduced. His work is not easy, but he submits himself in trust and finds strength in the Holy One of Israel.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Through the multitude of verses describing the Suffering Servant, the Children of Israel should begin to realize the cost of their salvation. The Servant, however, redeems all God’s people through his sufferings which climax in his death. Thus he truly becomes their Saviour. He died for their sins. What should have been their sufferings became his sufferings.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Ultimately the purpose for the humiliation and suffering of the servant is to cause the Children of Israel to appreciate the extent to which God would go to redeem them, to see what their rebellion had brought about, to cause them to mourn and return to the Holy One of Israel.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*Israel is called the servant:* Isaiah 41:8; 42:19; 43:10; 44:1, 2, 21; 45:4; 48:20

**Jewish interpretation**
The traditional Jewish interpretation is that the Servant is a metaphor for the Jewish people... Wikipedia
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*Israel is called the servant:* Isaiah 41:8,9; 42:19; 43:10; 44:1, 2, 21; 45:4; 48:20

**Isaiah 41:8-9 (HCSB)**

8 But you, *Israel,* My servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, descendant of Abraham, My friend— 9 I brought you from the ends of the earth and called you from its farthest corners. I said to you: You are My servant; I have chosen you and not rejected you.
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*Israel is called the servant*: Isaiah 41:8,9; 42:19; 43:10; 44:1, 2, 21; 45:4; 48:20

Isaiah 42:19 (CJB)

Who is as blind as my servant, or as deaf as the messenger I send? Who is as blind as the one I rewarded, as blind as the servant of Adonai?”
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*Israel is called the servant*: Isaiah 41:8, 9; 42:19; 43:10; 44:1, 2, 21; 45:4; 48:20

Isaiah 48:1 (HCSB)

“Listen to this, house of Jacob— those who are called by the name Israel and have descended from Judah, who swear by the name of Yahweh and declare the God of Israel, [but] not in truth or righteousness.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*Israel is called the servant:* Isaiah 41:8, 9; 42:19; 43:10; 44:1, 2, 21; 45:4; 48:20

Isaiah 48:4 (HCSB)

Because I know that you are stubborn, and your neck is iron and your forehead bronze,
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

Israel is called the servant: Isaiah 41:8,9; 42:19; 43:10; 44:1, 2, 21; 45:4; 48:20

Isaiah 48:8 (HCSB)
You have never heard; you have never known; For a long time your ears have not been open. For I knew that you were very treacherous, and were known as a rebel from birth.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant? Israel?

Isaiah 42:23-25 (CJB)

23 Which of you will listen to this? Who will hear and give heed in the times to come?
24 Who gave Ya‘akov to be pillaged, Isra’el to the plunderers? Didn’t Adonai, against whom we have sinned, in whose ways they refused to walk, he whose Torah they did not obey?
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant? *Israel?*

Isaiah 42:23-25 (CJB)

25 This is why he poured on him his blazing anger as well as the fury of battle— it wrapped him in flames, yet he learned nothing; it burned him, yet he did not take it to heart.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?
Cyrus?

Isaiah 45:1 (HCSB)
The LORD says this to Cyrus, His anointed, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him, to disarm kings, to open the doors before him and the gates will not be shut:
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant? 
*The Messiah?*

Isaiah is full of Messianic prophecies. 
At least fifteen references in section one.
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?
*The Messiah?*

Isaiah 9:6 (HCSB)
For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on His shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*The Messiah?*

Isaiah 28:16 (HCSB)
Therefore the Lord GOD said: “Look, I have laid a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; the one who believes will be unshakable.

Isaiah 32:1 (HCSB)
Indeed, a king will reign righteously, and rulers will rule justly.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant? 
*The Messiah?*

*New Testament Understanding*

**Acts 8:30 (HCSB)**

When Philip ran up to it, he heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, (ISA 53) and said, “Do you understand what you’re reading?”
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*The Messiah?*

New Testament Understanding

Acts 8:34-35 (HCSB)

34 The eunuch replied to Philip, “I ask you, who is the prophet saying this about—himself or another person?”

35 So Philip proceeded to tell him the good news about Jesus, beginning from that Scripture.
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant? 

_The Messiah?_

_New Testament Understanding_

Luke 22:37 (ESV)

For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: ‘And he was numbered with the transgressors. (Isa 53:12) For what is written about me has its fulfillment.’”
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?  
*The Messiah?*

New Testament Understanding

Matthew 8:16-17 (HCSB)  

16 When evening came, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. He drove out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick,
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant? 
_The Messiah?_

*New Testament Understanding*

Matthew 8:16-17 (HCSB)

17 so that what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah (53:4) might be fulfilled: He Himself took our weaknesses and carried our diseases.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant? 
*The Messiah?*

Rabbinic Writings

**Rabbi Moses Alschech (1508-1600)** says: 
"Our Rabbis with one voice accept and affirm the opinion that the prophet is speaking of the Messiah, and we shall ourselves also adhere to the same view."

**Rabbi Yafeth Ben Ali (second half of the 10th Century):**
"As for myself, I am inclined to regard it as alluding to the Messiah."
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

The Messiah?

Rabbinic Writings

Maimonides (1135-1204) wrote to Rabbi Jacob Alfajumi:

"Likewise said Isaiah that He (Messiah) would appear without acknowledging a father or mother: 'He grew up before him as a tender plant and as a root out of a dry ground' etc. (Isa. 53:2)."
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?
*The Messiah?*

Rabbinic Writings

**Rabbi Eleazer Kalir (9th Century)** wrote the following Musaf Prayer:

"Our righteous Messiah has departed from us. Horror has seized us and we have no one to justify us. He has borne our transgressions and the yoke of our iniquities, and is wounded because of our transgressions. He bore our sins upon His shoulders that we may find pardon for our iniquity."
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant? *The Messiah?*

Rabbinic Writings

Rabbi Eleazer Kalir (9. Century) wrote the following Musaf Prayer:

We shall be healed by His wounds, at the time when the Eternal will recreate Him a new creature. Oh bring Him up from the circle of the earth, raise Him up from Seir, that we may hear Him the second time."

www.hearnow.org
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?  
*The Messiah?*

Rabbinic Writings

**Rabbi Eleazer Kalir (9. Century)** wrote the following Musaf Prayer:

We shall be healed by His wounds, at the time when the Eternal will recreate Him a new creature. Oh bring Him up from the circle of the earth, raise Him up from Seir, *that we may hear Him the second time.*

www.hearnow.org
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*The Messiah?*

For the Christian - Jesus

For the believing Jew - Yeshua the Messiah

For most Jews - the nation

We have a fundamental problem.

Isaiah assures us it will be solved!
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*The Messiah*

Within the songs there is considerable variety in the portrayal of the servant. 'He is spoken *of*; he is spoken to; and he even speaks *himself*.' Likewise, many different descriptions are given of the servant's work, while the recipients of his ministry include the Gentile peoples as well as the nation Israel.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?
*The Messiah?*

The Servant Introduced - Isaiah 42:1-9

A contrast with idols mentioned in chap. 41.

*Isaiah 41:29 (HCSB)*

Look, all of them are a delusion; their works are nonexistent; their images are wind and emptiness.
Isaiah -- “The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?

*The Messiah?*

The Servant Introduced - Isaiah 42:1-9

Everything that Israel was meant to be (but wasn't) will be realised in this servant.
Isaiah --“The Servant Songs”

Who is this servant?
*The Messiah?*

The Servant Introduced - Isaiah 42:1-9

Isaiah 42:1 (HCSB)

“This is My Servant; I strengthen Him, [this is] My Chosen One; I delight in Him. I have put My Spirit on Him; He will bring justice to the nations.”
Who is this servant?  
*The Messiah*  
First Servant Song - Isaiah 42:1-9  
While Messiah has been revealed in Isaiah already, this passage begins to develop the purpose, role, character and work of the servant/Messiah. These will be fully revealed in the subsequent songs.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The introduction of the Servant
When did Jesus begin to realize that he was the servant?
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The introduction of the Servant
Isaiah 42:1 (HCSB)
“This is My Servant;
I strengthen Him, [this is]
My Chosen One;...
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The equipping of the Servant

Isaiah 42:1 (HCSB)
...I delight in Him. I have put My Spirit on Him; He will bring justice to the nations.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The introduction of the Servant

Luke 3:22 (HCSB)
22 and the Holy Spirit
descended on Him in a
physical appearance like a
dove. And a voice came from
heaven: You are My beloved
Son. I take delight in You!
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The equipping of the Servant
The Spirit was given:

- to kings (1 Sam. 11:6; 16:13)
- to prophets (Num. 11:29; 24:2; 2 Chron. 24:20; Micah 3:8)
- to leaders (Num. 11:17; Judg. 3:10)
- to artisans (Exod. 31:1-5)
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The equipping of the Servant
How does it differ for the Servant?

Isaiah 11:2 (HCSB)
The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him— a Spirit of wisdom and understanding, a Spirit of counsel and strength, a Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The equipping of the Servant
How does it differ for the Servant?

Isaiah 11:2 (HCSB)
...a Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
Requirement for governing
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 11:3-4 (HCSB)

3 His delight will be in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what He sees with His eyes, He will not execute justice by what He hears with His ears,

4 but He will judge the poor righteously and execute justice for the oppressed of the land. He will strike the land with discipline from His mouth, and He will kill the wicked with a command from His lips.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The equipping of the Servant
How does it differ for the Servant?

Isaiah 11:2 (HCSB)
...a Spirit of counsel and strength,
For waging war
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 11:11-12 (HCSB)

11 On that day the Lord will [extend] His hand a second time to recover—from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and the coasts and islands of the west—the remnant of His people who survive.

12 He will lift up a banner for the nations and gather the dispersed of Israel; He will collect the scattered of Judah from the four corners of the earth.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The equipping of the Servant
How does it differ for the Servant?

Isaiah 11:2 (HCSB)
...a Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

For Spiritual leadership
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 11:5 (HCSB)
Righteousness will be a belt around His loins; faithfulness will be a belt around His waist.

Isaiah 11:9 (HCSB)
None will harm or destroy [another] on My entire holy mountain, for the land will be as full of the knowledge of the LORD as the sea is filled with water.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The equipping of the Servant
Isaiah 42:1 (HCSB) I strengthen Him,
Isaiah 42:6 (HCSB) I will hold You by Your hand. I will keep (Heb. protect) You...
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The character of the Servant

Isaiah 42:2-4 (HCSB)
2 He will not cry out or shout or make His voice heard in the streets.
3 He will not break a bruised reed, and He will not put out a smoldering wick; He will faithfully bring justice.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The character of the Servant

Isaiah 42:2-4 (HCSB)

4 He will not grow weak or be discouraged until He has established justice on earth. The islands will wait for His instruction.”
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The character of the Servant
Gentle but strong
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The character of the Servant

Matthew 26:67-68 (HCSB)
67 Then they spit in His face and beat Him; others slapped Him
68 and said, “Prophesy to us, Messiah! Who hit You?”
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9

The character of the Servant
Not what Israel expected of Messiah.
Israel was looking for a warrior to bring political freedom to their homeland. God was providing redemption and reconciliation.
Since there was no association between the Servant of Isaiah and Messiah, the people rejected Jesus!
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The mission of the Servant

Isaiah 42:6-7 (HCSB)
6 “I, Yahweh, have called You for a righteous [purpose], and I will hold You by Your hand. I will keep You and appoint You [to be] a covenant for the people [and] a light to the nations,
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The mission of the Servant

Isaiah 42:6-7 (HCSB)
7 in order to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the dungeon, [and] those sitting in darkness from the prison house.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The mission of the Servant

17 The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to Him, and unrolling the scroll, He found the place where it was written:
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The mission of the Servant


18 The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim freedom to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed,
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9

Summary of the “First Servant Song”

God called and prepared a righteous Servant

That Servant would:

➤ Be endowed with the “Spirit”
➤ Bring justice to the nations
➤ Be gentle but strong
➤ Be a covenant for the “people”
➤ Be a light to the “nations”
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9

Summary of the “First Servant Song”
A covenant for the “people”?
The Servant, by his actions, fulfills what was intended by the covenant that God made with Israel at Sinai.

- To love, honour and obey God.
- To act justly and mercifully.
- To be an example to the Gentiles thus bringing them to the “light”.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
Summary of the “First Servant Song”
A covenant for the “people”?
Isaiah speaks of a new covenant. A new covenant that will be the result of the Servants’ work.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
Summary of the “First Servant Song”
A covenant for the “people”?

Isaiah 54:9-10 (HCSB)
9 “For this is like the days of Noah to Me: when I swore that the waters of Noah would never flood the earth again, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you or rebuke you.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9

Summary of the “First Servant Song”
A covenant for the “people”?

Isaiah 54:9-10 (HCSB)

10 Though the mountains move and the hills shake, My love will not be removed from you and My covenant of peace will not be shaken,” says your compassionate LORD.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9

Summary of the “First Servant Song”

A light to the nations

Isaiah 42:1 (HCSB)

“This is My Servant; I strengthen Him, [this is] My Chosen One; I delight in Him. I have put My Spirit on Him; He will bring justice to the nations.

Isaiah 42:6 (HCSB)

...a light to the nations,
Isaiah -- The “Lord shall save”

It was always God’s intention to extend salvation to Gentiles.

John 3:16 (CJB)
“For God so loved the world that he gave his only and unique Son, so that everyone who trusts in him may have eternal life, instead of being utterly destroyed.”
Isaiah -- The “Lord shall save”

It was always God’s intention to extend salvation to Gentiles.

Through Abraham

Genesis 22:18 (HRB)
And in your Seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have listened to My voice.
Isaiah -- The “Lord shall save”

It was always God’s intention to extend salvation to Gentiles.

Through The Servant

Isaiah 49:6 (HCSB)

He says, “It is not enough for you to be My Servant raising up the tribes of Jacob and restoring the protected ones of Israel. I will also make you a light for the nations, to be My salvation to the ends of the earth.”
Isaiah -- The “Lord shall save”

It was always God’s intention to extend salvation to Gentiles. Through The Servant

Isaiah 52:15 (HCSB)

so He will sprinkle many nations. Kings will shut their mouths because of Him, For they will see what had not been told them, and they will understand what they had not heard.
Isaiah -- The “Lord shall save”

The means was to be through Israel.

**Exodus 19:6 (HCSB)**

and you will be My kingdom of priests and My holy nation.’ These are the words that you are to say to the Israelites.”

**Deuteronomy 14:2 (HCSB)**

for you are a holy people belonging to the LORD your God. The LORD has chosen you to be His own possession out of all the peoples on the face of the earth.
Isaiah -- The “Lord shall save”

The means was to be through Israel. They were to be a Holy (set apart) nation. Their role as God’s servant was to be an example to the nations in order to bring them to God, that they too might be saved. Instead they took on the god’s of the nations (Ahaz), were unjust and oppressed their own people. Thus they never fulfilled their role. It requires the “servant” to accomplish God’s purpose.
Isaiah -- The “Lord shall save”

Isaiah 62:1-2 (HCSB)

1 I will not keep silent because of Zion, and I will not keep still because of Jerusalem, until her righteousness shines like a bright light and her salvation, like a flaming torch.

2 Nations will see your righteousness and all kings, your glory. You will be called by a new name that the LORD’s mouth will announce.
Strangers will stand and feed your flocks, and foreigners will be your plowmen and vinedressers.
Isaiah -- The “Lord shall save”

Isaiah 61:5-6 (HCSB)
6 But you will be called the LORD’s priests; they will speak of you as ministers of our God; you will eat the wealth of the nations, and you will boast in their riches.
Isaiah -- The “Lord shall save”

The result
Isaiah 66:23 (HCSB)

23 All mankind will come to worship Me from one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another,” says the LORD.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The declaration
Isaiah 42:8-9 (HCSB)

8 I am Yahweh, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another or My praise to idols.

9 The past events have indeed happened. Now I declare new events; I announce them to you before they occur.”
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:1-9
The Outcome
God’s glory and merciful love will be revealed in the redeeming, reconciliation and restoration of His people and the blessings that come to them and to the world as a result of the establishment of the Kingdom.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:10-12
Doxology - A New Song!
“An expression of praise to God.”
The intentions revealed in the song call for jubilant expression of appreciation. The call to praise is repeated several times: 'sing' (v. 10); 'raise voices', 'rejoice', 'shout' (v. 11); 'give glory', 'proclaim his praise' (v. 12).
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:10-12
An expression of joy!

Isaiah 42:10-12 (HCSB)

10 Sing a new song to the LORD; [sing] His praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea with all that fills it, you islands with your inhabitants.
Isaiah -- The First "Servant Song"

Isaiah 42:10-12
An expression of joy!

Isaiah 42:10-12 (HCSB)

11 Let the desert and its cities shout, the settlements where Kedar dwells [cry aloud]. Let the inhabitants of Sela sing for joy; let them cry out from the mountaintops.
Isaiah -- The First “Servant Song”

Isaiah 42:10-12
An expression of joy!

Isaiah 42:10-12 (HCSB)
12 Let them give glory to the LORD and Declare His praise in the islands.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
There are many similarities with the first song. Yet new details emerge. Whereas the Servant is introduced and spoken to in the First Song, the Servant himself speaks in the Second Song. His opening statement is addressed to the nations.
Isaiah -- The Second "Servant Song"

Isaiah 49:1-12

Isaiah 49:1 (HCSB)
Coastlands, listen to me; distant peoples, pay attention...

Why?
- Timing
- Subject
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12

Timing?
The time seems to be just before the beginning of the Millennium, when Israel is being gathered from the nations.

Isaiah 49:12 (HCSB)
See, these will come from far away, from the north and from the west, and from the land of Sinim.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
Timing?
The time seems to be just before the beginning of the Millennium, when Israel is being gathered from the nations.

Isaiah 49:12 (HCSB)
See, these will come from far away, from the north and from the west, and from the land of Sinim.
Not the location of Babylon.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
Subject?
The re-gathering of all Israel.

Isaiah 49:8 (CJB)
Here is what ADONAI says: "At the time when I choose, I will answer you; on the day of salvation, I will help you. I have preserved you, and I have appointed you to be the covenant for a people, to restore the land and distribute again its ruined inheritances to their owners,"
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
Subject?
The re-gathering of all Israel.
Isaiah 49:8 (CJB)
Here is what ADONAI says: "At the time when I choose, I will answer you; on the day of salvation, I will help you. I have preserved you, and I have appointed you to be the covenant for a people, to restore the land and distribute again its ruined inheritances to their owners,
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
Subject?
The re-gathering of all Israel.

Isaiah 49:22 (HCSB)
This is what the Lord GOD says: Look, I will lift up My hand to the nations, and raise My banner to the peoples. They will bring your sons in their arms, and your daughters will be carried on their shoulders.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
Subject?
The re-gathering of all Israel.

Isaiah 49:22 (HCSB)
This is what the Lord GOD says: Look, I will lift up My hand to the nations, and raise My banner to the peoples. They will bring your sons in their arms, and your daughters will be carried on their shoulders.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
In common with the First “Servant Song’
➢ Be a covenant for the “people”
➢ Be a light to the “nations”
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
Foreordained

Isaiah 49:1 (HCSB)
...The LORD called me before I was born. He named me while I was in my mother’s womb.

Isaiah 49:5 (HCSB)
5 And now, says the LORD, who formed me from the womb to be His Servant,...
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
Foreordained
Unusual
Most other prophets were called during adult years. Jeremiah being the other exception.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
Foreordained
Unusual

Jeremiah 1:5 (HCSB)
I chose you before I formed you in the womb; I set you apart before you were born. I appointed you a prophet to the nations.
Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
Purpose further developed
Isaiah 49:5-6 (HCSB)
5 And now, says the LORD, who formed me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him so that Israel might be gathered to Him; for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God is my strength—
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
Purpose further developed

Isaiah 49:5-6 (HCSB)

6 He says, “It is not enough for you to be My Servant raising up the tribes of Jacob and restoring the protected ones of Israel. I will also make you a light for the nations, to be My salvation to the ends of the earth.”
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
The equipping of the Servant

Isaiah 49:2 (HCSB)
He made my words like a sharp sword; He hid me in the shadow of His hand. He made me like a sharpened arrow; He hid me in His quiver.
New Details
The equipping of the Servant

Isaiah 49:2 (HCSB)
He made my words like a sharp sword; He hid me in the shadow of His hand. He made me like a sharpened arrow; He hid me in His quiver.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
The equipping of the Servant

Luke 2:51-52 (HCSB)

51 Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them. His mother kept all these things in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
My Servant “Israel”
Isaiah 49:3 (HCSB)
He said to me, “You are My Servant, Israel; I will be glorified in him.”
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12

New Details
My Servant “Israel”

Hebrew Strong's Number: 3478
Hebrew Word: יִשְׂרָאֵל
Transliteration: yiśrāʾēl
from <H8280> (sarah) and <H410> ('el); he will rule as God
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
The Servant’s sentiments
Isaiah 49:4-5 (HCSB)

4 But I myself said: I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and futility; yet my vindication is with the LORD, and my reward is with my God.

5 ...for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God is my strength—
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
The “Servant’s” vindication

Isaiah 49:7-8 (HCSB)
7 This is what the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, his Holy One, says to one who is despised, to one abhorred by people, to a servant of rulers: “Kings will see and stand up, and princes will bow down, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel—and He has chosen you.”
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
The “Servant’s” role

Isaiah 49:7-8 (HCSB)

8 This is what the LORD says: I will answer you in a time of favor, and I will help you in the day of salvation. I will keep you, and I will appoint you to be a covenant for the people, to restore the land, to make them possess the desolate inheritances,
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
The redeemed return
Isaiah 49:9-12 (HCSB)

9 saying to the prisoners: Come out, and to those who are in darkness: Show yourselves. They will feed along the pathways, and their pastures will be on all the barren heights.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
The redeemed return

Isaiah 49:9-12 (HCSB)

10 They will not hunger or thirst, the scorching heat or sun will not strike them; for their compassionate One will guide them, and lead them to springs of water.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:1-12
New Details
The redeemed return

Isaiah 49:9-12 (HCSB)

11 I will make all My mountains into a road, and My highways will be raised up.
12 See, these will come from far away, from the north and from the west, and from the land of Sinim.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26 (Doxolgy)
An expression of joy!
Isaiah 49:13 (CJB)
Sing, heaven! Rejoice, earth! Break out in song, you mountains! For ADONAI is comforting his people, having mercy on his own who have suffered.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26
An expression of joy!
Isaiah 49:14-15 (CJB)
14 "But Tziyon says, 'ADONAI has abandoned me, Adonai has forgotten me.' 15 Can a woman forget her child at the breast, not show pity on the child from her womb? Even if these were to forget, I would not forget you.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26
An expression of joy!
Isaiah 49:16-17 (CJB)
16 I have engraved you on the palms of my hands, your walls are always before me." 17 Your children are coming quickly, your destroyers and plunderers are leaving and going.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26
An expression of joy!

Isaiah 49:18 (CJB)
Raise your eyes, and look around: they are all gathering and coming to you. ADONAI swears: "As surely as I am alive, you will wear them all like jewels, adorn yourself with them like a bride."
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26
An expression of joy!

Isaiah 49:19 (CJB)
19 For your desolate places and ruins and your devastated land will be too cramped for those living in it; your devourers will be far away.
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26
An expression of joy!

Isaiah 49:20 (CJB)
The day will come when the children born when you were mourning will say to you, "This place is too cramped for me! Give me room, so I can live!"
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26
An expression of joy!

Isaiah 49:21 (CJB)
Then you will ask yourself,
"Who fathered these for me? I've been mourning my children, alone, as an exile, wandering to and fro; so who has raised these? I was left alone, so where have these come from?"
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26
An expression of joy!
Isaiah 49:22 (CJB)
Adonai ELOHIM answers:
"I am beckoning to the nations, raising my banner for the peoples. They will bring your sons in their arms and carry your daughters on their shoulders."
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26
An expression of joy!

Isaiah 49:23 (CJB)
Kings will be your foster-fathers, their princesses your nurses. They will bow to you, face toward the earth, and lick the dust on your feet. Then you will know that I am ADONAI - those who wait for me will not be sorry."
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26

An expression of joy!

Isaiah 49:24-25 (CJB)

24 But can booty be wrested from a warrior? Can a victor's captives be freed? 25 Here is ADONAI's answer: "Even a warrior's captives will be snatched away, and the booty of the fearful will be freed. I will fight those who fight you, and I will save your children."
Isaiah -- The Second “Servant Song”

Isaiah 49:13-26
An expression of joy!

Isaiah 49:26 (CJB)
I will feed those oppressing you with their own flesh; they will be drunk on their own blood as with wine. Then everyone will know that I, ADONAI, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Ya'akov."
Isaiah

The Book of Comfort
Isaiah

The Book of Comfort
We do not study the Bible just to gain information. We come to Scripture to meet God. If we truly want to know God, you and I must look into the Word of God and listen to Him share what is in His heart. We must look beyond the darkness of our todays to catch a vision of the bright sunshine of God's promised tomorrow.

The Teacher’s Commentary
Isaiah -- The Bride

The relationship between God and His people is likened to that of a husband and wife.
Isaiah -- The Bride

Isa 54: 5 (CJB)

For your husband is your Maker, ADONAI-Tzva'ot is his name...
Isaiah --The Bride

The typical Israelite marriage was arranged by the fathers between distant relatives and probably occurred when the boy was almost twenty and the girl in early to mid-teens.
Isaiah -- The Bride

It was arranged without the young persons’ consent, although they could make their wishes known.
Isaiah --The Bride

The wedding itself involved a feast, typically for seven days, inaugurated by the veiled bride being ceremoniously escorted with music and dancing from her parents’ house to the marriage tent.
Isaiah -- The Bride

Also involved in the marriage was a covenant which was put in writing. The covenant among fifth century B.C. Jews consisted of the bridegroom’s declaration that "she is my wife, and I am her husband, from this day forever."
Isaiah --The Bride

If there was something wrong the husband could give a bill of divorcement.

Deuteronomy 24:1 (HCSB)
“If a man marries a woman, but she becomes displeasing to him because he finds something improper about her, he may write her a divorce certificate, hand it to her, and send her away from his house.
Isaiah --The Bride

After divorcing her, he could not take her back if she had married someone else.

Deuteronomy 24:4 (HCSB)
the first husband who sent her away may not marry her again after she has been defiled, because that would be detestable to the LORD. You must not bring guilt on the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance.
By worshipping idols and being unjust, Judah had committed adultery.

Isaiah 1:21 (HCSB)
The faithful city—what an adulteress she has become!
She was once full of justice. Righteousness once dwelt in her— but now, murderers!
Isaiah -- The Bride

God would have been justified in divorcing Judah. Did He?

Isaiah 50:1 (HCSB)
This is what the LORD says: Where is your mother’s divorce certificate that I used to send her away? Or who were My creditors that I sold you to? Look, you were sold for your iniquities, and your mother was put away because of your transgressions.
Isaiah --The Bride

God would have been justified in divorcing Judah. Did He?

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This is what the LORD says: Where is your mother’s divorce certificate that I used to send her away? Or who were My creditors that I sold you to? Look, you were sold for your iniquities, and your mother was put away because of your transgressions.
Isaiah -- The Bride

It is clear that God did divorce Israel.

Jeremiah 3:8 (HCSB)
I observed that it was because unfaithful Israel had committed adultery that I had sent her away and had given her a certificate of divorce. Nevertheless, her treacherous sister Judah was not afraid but also went and prostituted herself.
Isaiah --The Bride

It is clear that God did divorce Israel.

Jeremiah 3:8 (HCSB)
I observed that it was because unfaithful Israel had committed adultery that I had sent her away and had given her a certificate of divorce. Nevertheless, her treacherous sister Judah was not afraid but also went and prostituted herself.
God would have been justified in divorcing Judah. Did He?

**Isaiah 50:1 (HCSB)**
Judah “was put away”

Hebrew Strong's Number: 7971

Hebrew Word: ṣālah

Transliteration: shālaḥ

a primitive root; **to send away**, for, or out
Isaiah -- The Bride

God would have been justified in divorcing Judah. Did He?

Isaiah 50:1 (HCSB)
Judah “was put away”
Hebrew Strong's Number: 7971
Hebrew Word: נָשָׁלַח
Transliteration: shālah
a primitive root; to send away, for, or out
Sent to Babylon
Isaiah -- The Bride

God would have been justified in divorcing Judah. Did He?

Jeremiah 3:8 (HCSB)
Israel “was put away” Number: 7971 shālaḥ
Israel was “given a certificate of divorce”
Hebrew Strong's Number: 3748
Hebrew Word: קַרֵיתוּת
Transliteration: kerîtût
from <H3772> (karath); a cutting (of the matrimonial bond), i.e. divorce
Isaiah -- The Bride

God would have been justified in divorcing Judah. Did He?

Causes of Exile
Various causes are assigned in the Haggadah for the Babylonian Exile.
"Another authority says that God exiled Israel to Babylonia, because it was the land from which they had come, as a husband that is angry with his wife sends her home to her mother (Pes. 87b). Bible-history.com
Isaiah --The Bride

God comes home to an empty house and laments that there is no one there.

Isaiah 50:2 (HCSB)
Why was no one there when I came? Why was there no one to answer when I called?
God is in mourning.

Isaiah 50:3 (CJB)
I dress the heavens in black to mourn and make their covering sackcloth.”
Isaiah --The Bride

It is in the husband’s power to restore the relationship so God decides to do so.

Isaiah 50:2 (HCSB)
Is My hand too short to redeem?

Isaiah 40 -66 is focussed on God’s redeeming grace.
Isaiah --The Bride

It is in the husband’s power to restore the relationship so God decides to do so.

“Redeemer” is used of God 13 times, all in chapters 40-66, which stress God’s redeeming work for Israel, and only five other times in the rest of the Old Testament. (Redeemed or ransomed, same word, is used an additional 11 times in Isaiah -3 times in all the other prophets)
Isaiah --The Bride

It is in the husband’s power to restore the relationship so God decides to do so.

Redeem, redemption, redeemer
To pay a price in order to secure the release of what is required in order to liberate from oppression, enslavement, or another type of binding obligation. The redemptive procedure may be legal, commercial, or religious.

Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary.
Isaiah -- The Bride

It is in the husband’s power to restore the relationship so God decides to do so.

Isaiah 54:5 (HCSB)
Indeed, your husband is your Maker—His name is Yahweh of Hosts— and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; He is called the God of all the earth.
Isaiah --The Bride

It is in the husband’s power to restore the relationship so God decides to do so.

Isaiah 44:22 (HCSB)
I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like a mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.
Isaiah -- The Bride

It is in the husband’s power to restore the relationship so God decides to do so.

Isaiah 50:2 (HCSB)
Is My hand too short to redeem? Or do I have no power to deliver? Look, I dry up the sea by My rebuke; I turn the rivers into a wilderness; their fish rot because of lack of water and die of thirst.
Isaiah -- The Bride

It is in the husband’s power to restore the relationship so God decides to do so.

Isaiah 54:7 (HCSB)
“I deserted you for a brief moment, but I will take you back with great compassion.”
Isaiah -- The Bride

It is in the husband’s power to restore the relationship so God decides to do so.

Isaiah 54:7 (HCSB)
“I deserted you for a brief moment, but I will take you back with great compassion.”
Isaiah --The Bride

How will the bride be redeemed? Through the “servant”

Isaiah 53:10 (CJB)

yet it pleased Adonai to crush him with illness, to see if he would present himself as a guilt offering.
The servant makes his soul an ʾâshâm, <H816> (ʾasham); guilt; by implication a fault; also a sin-offering :- guiltiness, (offering for) sin, trespass (offering).
Isaiah -- The Bride

How will the bride be redeemed?
Through the “servant”

Isaiah 53:10-11 (HCSB)
...My righteous Servant will _justify_ many, and He will carry their iniquities.

*a* primitive root; to _be_ (causative _make_) _right_ (in a moral or forensic sense) :-
cleanse, clear self, (be, do) just (-ice, -ify, -ify self), (be, turn to) righteous (-ness).

Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The third “servant song” immediately follows the suggestion that God will take back His wife. This song begins to lay out how God will accomplish this.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The third “servant song” while continuing with the preparation of the servant, introduces the suffering, strengthening and vindication of the servant. Unlike the previous songs it is not followed by a doxology.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The discipleship of the Servant
As Jesus made disciples who he instructed, he also had been a disciple (learner).
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The discipleship of the Servant
Isaiah 50:4 (HCSB)
The Lord GOD has given Me
the tongue of those who are
instructed to know how to
sustain the weary with a word...
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The discipleship of the Servant

Matthew 11:28-30 (HCSB)
28 “Come to Me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 All of you, take up My yoke and learn from Me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10

The relationship of the Servant

Isaiah 50:4-5 (HCSB)

...He awakens [Me] each morning;
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The training of the Servant

Isaiah 50:4-5 (HCSB)
...He awakens [Me] each morning; He awakens My ear to listen like those being instructed.
5 The Lord GOD has opened My ear,...
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The training of the Servant
Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (HCSB)
6 These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart.
7 Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The training of the Servant
John 14:10 (HCSB)
Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words I speak to you I do not speak on My own. The Father who lives in Me does His works.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The mistreatment of the Servant
Isaiah 50:6 (HCSB)
I gave My back to those who beat Me, and My cheeks to those who tore out My beard. I did not hide My face from scorn and spitting.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The strengthening of the Servant
Isaiah 50:7 (HCSB)
The Lord GOD will help Me; therefore I have not been humiliated; therefore I have set My face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The strengthening of the Servant
Isaiah 50:7 (HCSB)
The Lord GOD will help Me; therefore I have not been humiliated; therefore I have set My face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The strengthening of the Servant
Luke 9:53 (YLT)
and they did not receive him, because his face was going on
to Jerusalem.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The strengthening of the Servant
Luke 9:53 (YLT)
and they did not receive him, because his face was going on to Jerusalem.

Greek Strong's Number: 4383
Transliteration: prosōpon
the countenance, aspect, appearance, surface; by implication presence, person. -(outward) appearance,
Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The obedience of the Servant
Isaiah 50:5 (HCSB)
... I was not rebellious; I did not turn back.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The vindication of the Servant
Isaiah 50:8 (HCSB)
The One who vindicates Me is near; who will contend with Me? Let us confront each other. Who has a case against Me? Let him come near Me!
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The vindication of the Servant
Isaiah 50:8 (HCSB)
Unlike Israel which has a case brought against it, there is no case to bring against the servant who was not rebellious but has done the “Father’s will.”
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The vindication of the Servant
Isaiah 50:9 (HCSB)
In truth, the Lord GOD will help Me; who will condemn Me? Indeed, all of them will wear out like a garment; a moth will devour them.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The vindication of the Servant

Luke 23:14 (HCSB)

and (Pilate) said to them,
“You have brought me this man as one Who subverts the people.

But in fact, after examining Him in your presence, I have found no grounds to charge this man with those things you accuse Him of.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The advice of the Servant
Isaiah 50:10 (HCSB)
Who among you fears the LORD, listening to the voice of His Servant? Who [among you] walks in darkness, and has no light? Let him trust in the name of Yahweh; let him lean on his God.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10
The advice of the Servant
Isaiah 50:10 (HCSB)
Who among you fears the LORD, listening to the voice of His Servant? Who among you walks in darkness, and has no light? Let him trust in the name of Yahweh; let him lean on his God.
Isaiah -- The Third “Servant Song”

Isaiah 50:4-10

Summary

- The servant is both a disciple and teacher
- God personally instructs him
- He is mistreated
- He is strengthened by God
- He was obedient
- He was examined but found faultless
- He counsels trust in and leaning on God
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Isaiah -- The Structure
"The Book of Comfort" 3 divisions
Isaiah 40 - 66
ch.40-48 "There is no peace for the wicked, " says the LORD." 48:22
ch.49-57 "There is no peace, says my God, "for the wicked." 57:21
ch.58-66 "Who have transgressed against Me. For their worm shall not die." 66:24
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
The three sections of “The Book of Comfort”

1. Isa. 40-48
2. Isa. 49-52:12
3. Isa. 58-66
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

- The best known of the servant songs.
- Longest and most specific about the fate and role of the servant.
- Context the redemption and restoration of the nation.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
The redemption and restoration of the nation

Isaiah 52:9-12 (HCSB)
9 Be joyful, rejoice together, you ruins of Jerusalem! For the LORD has comforted His people; He has redeemed Jerusalem.
10 The LORD has displayed His holy arm in the sight of all the nations; all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
The redemption and restoration of the nation

Isaiah 52:9-12 (HCSB)
11 Leave, leave, go out from there! Do not touch anything unclean; go out from her, purify yourselves, you who carry the vessels of the LORD. 12 For you will not leave in a hurry, and you will not have to take flight; because the LORD is going before you, and the God of Israel is your rear guard.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 52:13
The servant will succeed in his role. The end result will be his exaltation.

Isaiah 52:13 (CJB)
"See how my servant will succeed! He will be raised up, exalted, highly honored!"
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 52:14
This in spite of being battered and abused

Isaiah 52:14 (CJB)
Just as many were appalled at him, because he was so disfigured that he didn't even seem human and simply no longer looked like a man,
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 52:15
The nations will be stunned
Isaiah 52:15 (CJB)
so now he will startle many nations; because of him, kings will be speechless. For they will see what they had not been told, they will ponder things they had never heard."
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:1 The message Isaiah presents sounds preposterous

Isaiah 53:1 (CJB)
Who believes our report? To whom is the arm of ADONAI revealed?
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:1 The message Isaiah presents sounds preposterous

Matthew 16:22 (HCSB)

22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, “Oh no, Lord! This will never happen to You!”
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:2 There was nothing about him that suggested greatness

Isaiah 53:2 (CJB)  
For before him he grew up like a young plant, like a root out of dry ground. He was not well-formed or especially handsome; we saw him, but his appearance did not attract us.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:2 There was nothing about him that would suggest royalty (Messiah)
Isaiah 53:2 (HCSB)
He grew up before Him like a young plant and like a root out of dry ground. He didn’t have an impressive form or majesty that we should look at Him, no appearance that we should desire Him.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:2 There was nothing about him that would suggest royalty (Messiah)
John 7:12 (HCSB)
And there was a lot of discussion about Him among the crowds. Some were saying, “He’s a good man.” Others were saying, “No, on the contrary, He’s deceiving the people.”
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:3 He was shunned
Isaiah 53:3 (CJB)
People despised and avoided him, a man of pains, well acquainted with illness. Like someone from whom people turn their faces, he was despised; we did not value him.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:3 He was shunned
John 1:11 (HCSB)
He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:4 His burden was our sickness
Isaiah 53:4 (CJB)
In fact, it was our diseases he bore, our pains from which he suffered; ...
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:4 His burden was our sickness
Matthew 8:17 (HCSB)
so that what was spoken through the
prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: He Himself took our weaknesses and carried our diseases.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:4 His burden was our sickness

Matthew 4:23 (HCSB)
Jesus was going all over Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:4 He must have been guilty

Isaiah 53:4 (CJB)

In fact, it was our diseases he bore, our pains from which he suffered; yet we regarded him as punished, stricken and afflicted by God.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:4 He must have been guilty

John 9:2 (HCSB)

His disciples questioned Him: “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:5 We profited from his suffering
Isaiah 53:5 (CJB)
But he was wounded because of our crimes, crushed because of our sins; the disciplining that makes us whole fell on him, and by his bruises we are healed.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:5 We profited from his suffering

1 Peter 3:18 (CJB)
For the Messiah himself died for sins, once and for all, a righteous person on behalf of unrighteous people, so that he might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but brought to life by the Spirit;
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:6 We were guilty, he paid the price
Isaiah 53:6(CJB)
We all, like sheep, went astray;
we turned, each one, to his own way; yet ADONAI laid on him the guilt of all of us.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:7 He submitted to injustice
Isaiah 53:7(CJB)
Though mistreated, he was submissive - he did not open his mouth. Like a lamb led to be slaughtered, like a sheep silent before its shearer, he did not open his mouth.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:8 He submitted to injustice

Isaiah 53:8 (CJB)
After forcible arrest and sentencing, he was taken away; and none of his generation protested his being cut off from the land of the living for the crimes of my people, who deserved the punishment themselves.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:9 He submitted to injustice

Isaiah 53:9 (CJB)
He was given a grave among the wicked; in his death he was with a rich man. Although he had done no violence and had said nothing deceptive
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:10 He submitted his will to God
Isaiah 53:10(CJB)
yet it pleased ADONAI to crush him with illness, to see if he would present himself as a guilt offering. If he does, he will see his offspring; and he will prolong his days; and at his hand ADONAI's desire will be accomplished.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:10 He submitted his will to God

Matthew 26:42 (HCSB)

Again, a second time,
He went away and prayed,
“My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it,
Your will be done.”
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Isaiah 53:12 He will be exalted
Isaiah 53:12(CJB)
Therefore I will assign him a share with the great, he will divide the spoil with the mighty, for having exposed himself to death and being counted among the sinners, while actually bearing the sin of many and interceding for the offenders."
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

Summary

- The servant will be exalted
- The servant will be mistreated
- The nations will be amazed at him
- The servant will appear ordinary
- The servant will be shunned
- He will be punished for the sins of others
- He will submit quietly to this injustice
- He will be exalted
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology
Isaiah 54
Immediately following the Fourth Servant Song a song of praise is reintroduced. It is a song that has not yet been sung. One day it will be sung with great joy and thanksgiving when Israel is reconciled to her Husband.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology
Isaiah 54 (CJB)
1 "Sing, barren woman who has never had a child! Burst into song, shout for joy, you who have never been in labor! For the deserted wife will have more children than the woman who is living with her husband," says ADONAI. 2 Enlarge the space for your tent, extend the curtains of your dwelling; do not hold back, lengthen your cords, make your tent pegs firm.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology
Isaiah 54 (CJB)
3 For you will spread out to the right and the left, your descendants will possess the nations and inhabit the desolated cities. 4 Don't be afraid, for you won't be ashamed; don't be discouraged, for you won't be disgraced. You will forget the shame of your youth, no longer remember the dishonor of being widowed.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology
Isaiah 54 (CJB)
5 For your husband is your Maker, ADONAI-Tzva'ot is his name. The Holy One of Isra'el is your Redeemer. He will be called the God of all the earth.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology
Isaiah 54 (CJB)
6 For ADONAI has called you back like a wife abandoned and grief-stricken; "A wife married in her youth cannot be rejected," says your God.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology

Isaiah 54 (CJB)

7 "Briefly I abandoned you, but with great compassion I am taking you back. 8 I was angry for a moment and hid my face from you; but with everlasting grace I will have compassion on you," says ADONAI your Redeemer. 9 "For me this is like Noach's flood. Just as I swore that no flood like Noach's would ever again cover the earth, so now I swear that never again will I be angry with you or rebuke you."
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology
Isaiah 54 (CJB)
10 For the mountains may leave and the hills be removed, but my grace will never leave you, and my covenant of peace will not be removed," says ADONAI, who has compassion on you.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology

Isaiah 54 (CJB)

11 "Storm-ravaged [city], unconsoled, I will set your stones in the finest way, lay your foundations with sapphires, 12 make your windows shine with rubies, your gates with garnet, your walls with gemstones."
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology
Isaiah 54 (CJB)
13 All your children will be taught by ADONAI; your children will have great peace. 14 In righteousness you will be established, far from oppression, with nothing to fear; far from ruin, for it will not come near you. 15 Any alliance that forms against you will not be my doing; whoever tries to form such an alliance will fall because of you.
Isaiah -- The Fourth “Servant Song”

The Doxology

Isaiah 54 (CJB)

16 It is I who created the craftsman who blows on the coals and forges weapons suited to their purpose; I also created the destroyer to work havoc. 17 No weapon made will prevail against you. In court you will refute every accusation. The servants of ADONAI inherit all this; the reward for their righteousness is from me," says ADONAI.
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

Who is the servant?
The wife is not yet ready for reconciliation
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

Who is the servant?
Not Jesus

Romans 10:3 (HCSB)
3 Because they disregarded the righteousness from God and attempted to establish their own righteousness, they have not submitted themselves to God’s righteousness.
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

The Problem

*Mitzvah* (MITS-vuh); pl: *Mitzvot* (mits-VOHT) Lit. commandment.

Any of the 613 commandments that Jews are obligated to observe. It can also refer to any Jewish religious obligation, or more generally to any good deed.
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

The Problem

Mitzvah

In fact, Jewish tradition understands exactly 613 mitzvot (plural of mitzvah) to be derived from the Hebrew Bible. It is not simply a “good deed,” for example, to refrain from murdering or stealing. And similarly, the mitzvot which deal with feeding the poor, acting kindly to the stranger, or observing the Sabbath are
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

The Problem

Mitzvah

much more significant in the Jewish tradition than mere divine suggestions on how to be good. Mitzvot are commandments, traditionally understood to come from God and to be intended for the Jewish people to observe
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

The Problem

Mitzvah

Charity boxes
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

The Problem

Mitzvah

...generations of rabbis continued to update, adapt, and generate new, more modern commandments--all understood to be derived from the original 613 in the Torah.
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

The Problem

Mitzvah

Today, Jews no longer practice animal sacrifices or give agricultural gifts to a hereditary class of priests--yet there are modern mitzvot (often the subject of ideological controversy) that deal with questions relating to organ donation, the kashrut (fitness for eating) of organic fruits and vegetables,...
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

The Problem

**Mitzvah - Why do them?**

The Torah itself does not offer many enlightened reasons, but generally explains that the Jewish people should observe the mitzvot simply because God commanded us to do so, or because of the potential negative consequences that would result from non-compliance.
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

The Problem

Mitzvah - Why do them?
Other thinkers have endeavored to prove that the mitzvot are all completely rational, logical actions which any moral and ethical people would welcome. Still others claim that the commandments actually improve us as human beings, refining us as upright and just people, ...
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

The Problem

Romans 9:31-32 (HCSB)

31 But Israel, pursuing the law for righteousness, has not achieved [the righteousness] of the law.
32 Why is that? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone.
Isaiah - Reconciliation?

Isaiah assures us that ultimately Israel will be reconciled to her husband and become the servant that she was intended to be but only after being sorely punished for disobedience, unbelief and rejection of the Servant.
Isaiah

The Book of Comfort
Salvation is of Yah
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

Romans 10:1 (CJB)
Brothers, my heart’s deepest desire and my prayer to God for Isra’el is for their salvation;
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

Romans 11:15 (HCSB)
For if their rejection [brings] reconciliation to the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead?
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

Repentance
Redemption
Reconciliation
Restoration
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

Repentance

Reconciliation

Restoration
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

Micah 7:18 (CJB)
Who is a God like you, pardoning the sin and overlooking the crimes of the remnant of his heritage? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in grace.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The Holy One of Israel spoke words of comfort and hope to the scattered of Israel. He speaks to us now. In His promise of redemption, reconciliation and restoration, He reveals Himself to us as a God of endless love, ever willing to forgive.
Isaiah - The Wife

Isaiah 54:7 (HCSB)
“I deserted you for a brief moment, but I will take you back with great compassion.”
The wife is not yet ready for reconciliation
Israel still rejects Jesus as the Messiah
Israel still sees no need for the forgiveness of their sins
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

Romans 10:3 (CJB)
for, since they are unaware of God’s way of making people righteous and instead seek to set up their own, they have not submitted themselves to God’s way of making people righteous.
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

Romans 11:25-26 (CJB)

25 For, brothers, I want you to understand this truth which God formerly concealed but has now revealed, so that you won’t imagine you know more than you actually do. It is that stoniness, to a degree, has come upon Isra’el, until the Gentile world enters in its fullness;
Romans 11:25-26 (CJB)

26 and that it is in this way that all Isra’el will be saved. As the Tanakh says, “Out of Tziyon will come the Redeemer; he will turn away ungodliness from Ya‘akov
Isaiah 44:22 (HCSB)
I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like a mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

The Solution  Isaiah 52-54
God will comfort His people
God will provide a sacrificial lamb
The “wife” will be reconciled and restored
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

The Need for Repentance

Isaiah 59:12-15 (HCSB)

12 For our transgressions have multiplied before You, and our sins testify against us. For our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities:

13 transgression and deception against the LORD, turning away from following our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering lying words from the heart.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

The Need for Repentance

Isaiah 59:12-15 (HCSB)

14 Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far off. For truth has stumbled in the public square, and honesty cannot enter.

15 Truth is missing, and whoever turns from evil is plundered. The LORD saw that there was no justice, and He was offended.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

The Need for Repentance
Isaiah 64:6-7 (CJB)
6 All of us are like someone unclean, all our righteous deeds like menstrual rags; we wither, all of us, like leaves; and our misdeeds blow us away like the wind. 7 No one calls on your name or bestirs himself to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and caused our misdeeds to destroy us.
Isaiah -- Repentance

The Need for Repentance

Isaiah 65:6-7 (CJB)

6 See, it is written before me; I will not be silent until I repay them; I will repay them to the full, 7 your own crimes and those of your ancestors together," says ADONAI. "They offered incense on the mountains and insulted me on the hills. First I will measure out their wages and then repay them in full.
Isaiah -- Repentance

The Need for Repentance

Isaiah 65:11-12 (CJB)

11 "But as for you who abandon ADONAI, who forget my holy mountain, who prepare a table for a Gad, a god of luck, and fill bowls of mixed wine for Meni, a god of destiny 12 I will destine you to the sword, you will all bow down to be slaughtered; because when I called, you did not answer; when I spoke, you did not hear, but did what was evil from my point of view and chose what did not please me."
Why Reconcile?

Isaiah 60:21 (HCSB)
Then all your people will be righteous; they will possess the land forever; they are the branch I planted, the work of My hands, so that I may be glorified.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

Why Reconcile?

Ezekiel 36:22-23 (HCSB)

22 “Therefore, say to the house of Israel: This is what the Lord GOD says: It is not for your sake that I will act, house of Israel, but for My holy name, which you profaned among the nations where you went.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

Why Reconcile?

Ezekiel 36:22-23 (HCSB)

23 I will honor the holiness of My great name, which has been profaned among the nations—the name you have profaned among them. The nations will know that I am Yahweh”—the declaration of the Lord GOD—“when I demonstrate My holiness through you in their sight.”
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

How?
Zechariah 13:7-9 (CJB)

7 “Awake, sword, against my shepherd, against the man who is close to me,” says Adonai-Tzva’ot. “Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered; I will turn my hand against the young ones.

8 In time, throughout that land,” says Adonai, “two-thirds of those in it will be destroyed —
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

How?
Zechariah 13:7-9 (CJB)
they will die, but one-third will remain.  
9 That third part I will bring through the fire; I will refine them as silver is refined, I will test them as gold is tested. They will call on my name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘This is my people’ and they will say, ‘Adonai is my God.’”
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

The Result

Isaiah 59:20-21 (HCSB)

21 “As for Me, this is My covenant with them,” says the LORD: “My Spirit who is on you, and My words that I have put in your mouth, will not depart from your mouth, or from the mouth of your children, or from the mouth of your children’s children, from now on and forever,” says the LORD.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

The Result

Ezekiel 36:24-26 (HCSB)

24 “For I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries, and will bring you into your own land.
25 I will also sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities and all your idols.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

The Result

Ezekiel 36:24-26 (HCSB)

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

The Result
Zechariah 12:10 (CJB)
10 and I will pour out on the house of David and on those living in Yerushalayim a spirit of grace and prayer; and they will look to me, whom they pierced.” They will mourn for him as one mourns for an only son; they will be in bitterness on his behalf like the bitterness for a firstborn son.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

The Result

Zechariah 12:11-14 (HCSB)

11 On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the plain of Megiddo.
12 The land will mourn, every family by itself: the family of David’s house by itself and their women by themselves; the family of Nathan’s house by itself and their women by themselves;
The Result

Zechariah 12:11-14 (HCSB)

13 the family of Levi’s house by itself and their women by themselves; the family of Shimei by itself and their women by themselves;

14 all the remaining families, every family by itself, and their women by themselves.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

Who?

Isaiah 59:20 (HCSB)

20 “The Redeemer will come to Zion, and to those in Jacob who turn from transgression.” [This is] the LORD’s declaration.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

Who?

Isaiah 65:8

8 Here is what ADONAI says: "As when juice is found in a cluster of grapes, and people say, 'Don't destroy it, there is still some good in it,' so I will do likewise for the sake of my servants, and not destroy them all"
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

Who?

Isaiah 64:4-5 (CJB)

4 No one has ever heard, no ear perceived, no eye seen, any God but you. You work for him who waits for you. 5 You favored those who were glad to do justice, those who remembered you in your ways.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

Who?

**Romans 11:5 (HCSB)**

In the same way, then, there is also at the present time a remnant chosen by grace.
Isaiah 60:2 (HCSB)
For look, darkness covers the earth, and total darkness the peoples; but the LORD will shine over you, and His glory will appear over you.
Isaiah 60:1-2 (CJB)

"Arise, shine [Yerushalayim], for your light has come, the glory of ADONAI has risen over you.

2 For although darkness covers the earth and thick darkness the peoples; on you ADONAI will rise; over you will be seen his glory.
Isaiah 60:3 (CJB)
Nations will go toward your light and kings toward your shining splendor.
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

Why?
Isaiah 49:6 (CJB)

"...I will also make you a light to the nations, so my salvation can spread to the ends of the earth."
Isaiah -- Reconciliation

How?

John 3:16 (CJB) "For God so loved the world that he gave his only and unique Son, so that everyone who trusts in him may have eternal life, instead of being utterly destroyed."
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Although divine judgment was and is inevitable, unless there is repentance, to the faithful Isaiah offers hope, comfort and a glorious vision of God's coming kingdom.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 62:4-5 (HCSB)

4 You will no longer be called Deserted, and your land will not be called Desolate; instead, you will be called My Delight is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land will be married.
Isaiah 62:4-5 (HCSB)

5 For as a young man marries a young woman, so your sons will marry you; and as a groom rejoices over [his] bride, so your God will rejoice over you.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 12 (CJB)

1 On that day you will say: "I thank you, ADONAI, because, although you were angry at me, your anger is now turned away; and you are comforting me."
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 12 (CJB) (Isaiah - Salvation is of Yah)

2 "See! God is my salvation. I am confident and unafraid; for Yah ADONAI is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation!"
Isaiah 12 (CJB)
3 Then you will joyfully draw water from the springs of salvation.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 12 (CJB)
4 On that day you will say, "Give thanks to ADONAI! Call on his name! Make his deeds known among the peoples, declare how exalted is his name."
Sing to ADONAI, for he has triumphed - this is being made known throughout the earth.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 12 (CJB)

6 Shout and sing for joy, you who live in Tziyon; for the Holy One of Isra'el is with you in his greatness!"
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 60:4-7 (HCSB)

4 Raise your eyes and look around: they all gather and come to you; your sons will come from far away, and your daughters will be carried on the hip.
Isaiah 60:4-7 (HCSB)

5 Then you will see and be radiant, and your heart will tremble and rejoice, because the riches of the sea will become yours and the wealth of the nations will come to you.
Isaiah 60:4-7 (HCSB)
6 Caravans of camels will cover your land—
young camels of Midian and Ephah— all of them will come from Sheba. They will carry gold and frankincense and proclaim the praises of the LORD.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 60:4-7 (HCSB)
7 All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered to you; the rams of Nebaioth will serve you and go up on My altar as an acceptable [sacrifice]. I will glorify My beautiful house.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 60:10-11 (HCSB)

10 Foreigners will build up your walls, and their kings will serve you. Although I struck you in My wrath, yet I will show mercy to you with My favor.
Isaiah 60:10-11 (HCSB)

11 Your gates will always be open; they will never be shut day or night so that the wealth of the nations may be brought into you, with their kings being led in procession.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 60:20-21 (HCSB)

20 Your sun will no longer set, and your moon will not fade; for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and the days of your sorrow will be over.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 60:20-21 (HCSB)

21 Then **all your people will be righteous**; they will possess the land forever; they are the branch I planted, the work of My hands, **so that I may be glorified**.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 2:2-4 (HCSB)

2 In the last days the mountain of the LORD’s house will be established at the top of the mountains and will be raised above the hills. All nations will stream to it,
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 2:2-4 (HCSB)

3 and many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us about His ways so that we may walk in His paths.” For instruction will go out of Zion and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 2:2-4 (HCSB)

4 He will settle disputes among the nations and provide arbitration for many peoples. They will turn their swords into plows and their spears into pruning knives. Nations will not take up the sword against [other] nations, and they will never again train for war.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 2:2-4 (HCSB)

4 He will settle disputes among the nations and provide arbitration for many peoples. They will turn their swords into plows and their spears into pruning knives. Nations will not take up the sword against [other] nations, and they will never again train for war.
Isaiah 2:2-4 (HCSB)

He will settle disputes among the nations and provide arbitration for many peoples. They will turn their swords into plows and their spears into pruning knives. Nations will not take up the sword against [other] nations, and they will never again train for war.
Isaiah 11:6-8 (HCSB)

6 The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the goat. The calf, the young lion, and the fatling will be together, and a child will lead them.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 11:6-8 (HCSB)

7 The cow and the bear will graze, their young ones will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 11:6-8 (HCSB)

8 An infant will play beside the cobra’s pit, and a toddler will put his hand into a snake’s den.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 66:12-13 (HCSB)

12 For this is what the LORD says: I will make peace flow to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flood; you will nurse and be carried on [her] hip and bounced on [her] lap.
Isaiah -- The Restoration

Isaiah 66:12-13 (HCSB)

13 As a mother comforts her son, so I will comfort you, and you will be comforted in Jerusalem.
Isaiah 65:1-2 (CJB)
1 "I made myself accessible to those who didn’t ask for me, I let myself be found by those who didn’t seek me. I said, ‘Here I am! Here I am!’ to a nation not called by my name.
2 I spread out my hands all day long to a rebellious people who live in a way that is not good, who follow their own inclinations;
Isaiah -- The Epilogue Ch. 65,66

God has been extremely patient, but His patience will come to an end.
Isaiah 65:6-7 (CJB)

6 See, it is written before me; I will not be silent until I repay them; I will repay them to the full,
7 your own crimes and those of your ancestors together,” says Adonai...
Isaiah -- The Epilogue Ch. 65,66

There will be a remnant of faithful Israel
Isaiah 65:9 (NLT)
I will preserve a remnant of the people of Israel and of Judah to possess my land. Those I choose will inherit it, and my servants will live there.
Isaiah -- The Epilogue Ch. 65,66

God’s purpose will be accomplished
Isaiah 65:17 (CJB)
“For, look! I create new heavens and a new earth; past things will not be remembered, they will no more come to mind."
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”
The New Heavens and The New Earth
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth
Isaiah 65:17- 66:24
The book of Isaiah ends with the vision of what God intends to accomplish, new heavens and a new earth.

Isaiah 65:17 (CJB)
“For, look! I create new heavens and a new earth; past things will not be remembered, they will no more come to mind.”
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth
Isaiah 65:17- 66:24

The book of Isaiah ends with the vision of what God intends to accomplish, new heavens and a new earth.

Isaiah 65:17 (CJB)
“For, look! I create new heavens and a new earth; past things will not be remembered, they will no more come to mind.
Isaiah - A New Heaven and a New Earth

Create Hebrew Strong's Number: 1254
bārāʾ
a primitive root; (absolute) to *create*;
(qualified) to *cut* down (a wood),
*select*, *feed* (*as formative processes*)
:- choose, create (creator), cut down,
dispatch, do, make (fat).

Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth

Isaiah 65:17 (CJB)

“For, look! I create new heavens and a new earth; past things will not be remembered, they will no more come to mind.

“new” Hebrew Strong's Number: 2319 from <H2318> (chadash); new :- fresh, new thing a primitive root; to be new; causative to rebuild :- renew, repair.

Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth
Isaiah 65:18 (HCSB)

The Process
Beginning in Israel

18 Then be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I will create Jerusalem to be a joy and its people to be a delight.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth
Isaiah 65:19-25 (HCSB)

Conditions

19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in My people. The sound of weeping and crying will no longer be heard in her. 
20 In her, a nursing infant will no longer live only a few days, or an old man not live out his days. Indeed, the youth will die at a hundred years, and the one who misses a hundred years will be cursed.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth

Isaiah 65:19-25 (HCSB)

21 People will build houses and live [in them]; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

22 They will not build and others live [in them]; they will not plant and others eat. For My people’s lives will be like the lifetime of a tree. My chosen ones will fully enjoy the work of their hands.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth

Isaiah 65:19-25 (HCSB)

23 They will not labor without success or bear children [destined] for disaster, for they will be a people blessed by the LORD along with their descendants.

24 Even before they call, I will answer; while they are still speaking, I will hear.
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth

Isaiah 65:19-25 (HCSB)

25 The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, but the serpent’s food will be dust! They will not do what is evil or destroy on My entire holy mountain,” says the LORD.
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth
Isaiah 66:23 (HCSB)
23 All mankind will come to worship Me from one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another,” says the LORD.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth

Isaiah 66:22 (HCSB)

“For just as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, will endure before Me”— [this is] the LORD’s declaration— “so your offspring and your name will endure.
Isaiah - New Heavens and a New Earth

Isaiah’s vision:
All the children of Israel will be restored to the promised land.
A righteous and just King will rule the world from Jerusalem
Jerusalem will become a joy and its people a delight
In Jerusalem there will be a house of prayer for all nations
All mankind will come to Jerusalem to worship God
Isaiah - New Heavens and a New Earth

Isaiah’s vision:
Children of Israel will become priests and Levites
They will be a witness to the world of God’s character
They will fulfill the purpose for which God called them (a light to the nations)
Sickness and death will be greatly lessened
Nature will be in harmony
John’s vision:
Revelation 21:1-2 (HCSB)

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea no longer existed.

²I also saw the Holy City, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.
New Heavens and a New Earth

Isaiah’s vision:
The beginning of the process (millenium)
Israel’s reconciliation and restoration

Bringing about the conditions leading to

John’s vision:
The culmination of the process (dwelling with humanity)
Mankind’s reconciliation and restoration
Isaiah - The Vision and the Warning

Isaiah 66:23-24 (HCSB)

23 All mankind will come to worship Me from one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another,” says the LORD.

24 “As they leave, they will see the dead bodies of the men who have rebelled against Me; for their worm will never die, their fire will never go out, and they will be a horror to all mankind.”
Isaiah -- The coming of the Lord

The Lord Shall Save

Isaiah 59 (CJB)

19 in the west they will fear the name of ADONAI, and likewise, in the east, his glory. For he will come like a pent-up stream, impelled by the Spirit of ADONAI.
Isaiah --The coming of the Lord

The Lord Shall Save
Isaiah 46:12-13 (CJB)
12 Listen to me, you stubborn people, so far from righteousness: 13 I am bringing my justice nearer, it is not far away; my salvation will not be delayed, I will place my salvation in Tziyon for Isra'el my glory.
Isaiah -- The coming of the Lord

The Lord Shall Save

Isaiah 46:12-13 (CJB)

12 Listen to me, you stubborn people, so far from righteousness: 13 I am bringing my justice nearer, it is not far away; my salvation will not be delayed, I will place my salvation in Tziyon for Isra'el my glory.
The Lord Shall Save

Isaiah 60:22 (HCSB)

22 The least will become a thousand, the smallest a mighty nation. I am Yahweh; I will accomplish it quickly in its time.
Isaiah --The coming of the Lord

The Lord Shall Save
Isaiah 60:22 (HCSB)
22 The least will become a thousand, the smallest a mighty nation. I am Yahweh; I will accomplish it quickly in its time.

Quickly - figurative - to be eager with excitement or enjoyment
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

The Lord Shall Save

Isaiah 25:6-9 (HCSB)

6 The LORD of Hosts will prepare a feast for all the peoples on this mountain—a feast of aged wine, choice meat, finely aged wine.
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

The Lord Shall Save

**Isaiah 25:6-9 (HCSB)**

7 On this mountain [He] will destroy the [burial] shroud, the shroud over all the peoples, the sheet covering all the nations;
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

The Lord Shall Save

Isaiah 25:6-9 (HCSB)

8 He will destroy death forever. The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face and remove His people’s disgrace from the whole earth, for the LORD has spoken.
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

The Lord Shall Save

Isaiah 25:6-9 (HCSB)

9 On that day it will be said, “Look, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He has saved us. This is the LORD; we have waited for Him. Let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation.”
Isaiah -- Salvation is of Yah

Isaiah 62:4-7 (HCSB)
6 Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen on your walls; they will never be silent, day or night. There is no rest for you, who remind the LORD.
Isaiah -- Salvation is of Yah

Isaiah 62:4-7 (HCSB)

7 Do not give Him rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem the praise of the earth.
Isaiah -- Salvation is of Yah

Isa 56:1 (CJB)
Here is what ADONAI says: "Observe justice, do what is right, for my salvation is close to coming, my righteousness to being revealed."
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

Isaiah 40 (CJB)
1 "Comfort and keep comforting my people," says your God.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

Isaiah 40 (CJB)
1 "Comfort and keep comfortin g my people," says your God.
   What about you and me?
   We are pilgrims on a journey.
   We take comfort that God has great plans for the future.
   What can comfort me now?
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

Trust in Yahweh
Hope and Comfort in Dark Days
No matter how evil the generation, there was always a remnant of faithful people. Even in Israel, in the time of wicked Ahab and Jezebel, there were 7000 who did not bow the knee to Baal. Through Isaiah God provides hope and comfort for those who trust in Him.
Isaiah – “Comfort My People”

Trust in Yahweh

Isaiah 50:10 (HCSB)

Who among you fears the LORD, listening to the voice of His Servant? Who among you walks in darkness, and has no light? Let him trust in the name of Yahweh; let him lean on his God.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

Trust in Yahweh

Isaiah 26:3-4 (NLT)

3 You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

4 Trust in the LORD always, for the LORD GOD is the eternal Rock.
Isaiah 64:4-5 (HCSB)

4 From ancient times no one has heard, no one has listened, no eye has seen any God except You, who acts on behalf of the one who waits for Him.

5 You welcome the one who joyfully does what is right; they remember You in Your ways...
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

Trust in Yahweh

Isaiah 26:11-12 (CJB)
11 ADONAI, you raised your hand, but they still didn't see. Yet with shame they will see your zeal for the people. Yes, fire will destroy your enemies. 12 ADONAI, you will grant us peace; because all we have done, you have done for us.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

Trust in Yahweh

Isaiah 26:20-21 (CJB)

20 Come, my people, enter your rooms, and shut your doors behind you. Hide yourselves for a little while until the wrath is past. 21 For see! ADONAI emerges from his place to punish those on earth for their sin. Then the earth will reveal the blood shed on it and no longer conceal its slain.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”

Trust in Yahweh

Isaiah 57:15 (HCSB)
For the High and Exalted One who lives forever, whose name is Holy says this: “I live in a high and holy place, and with the oppressed and lowly of spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and revive the heart of the oppressed.
Trust in Yahweh
Isaiah 41:17 (HCSB)
The poor and the needy seek water, but there is none; their tongues are parched with thirst. I, Yahweh, will answer them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them.
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

Trust in Yahweh
Isaiah 51:7,8 (HCSB)

7 Listen to Me, you who know righteousness, the people in whose heart is My instruction: do not fear disgrace by men, and do not be shattered by their taunts.

8 For the moth will devour them like a garment, and the worm will eat them like wool. But My righteousness will last forever, and My salvation for all generations.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”
Isaiah 40:28-31 (HCSB)

29 He gives strength to
the weary and strengthens the powerless.
Isaiah --“Comfort My People”
Isaiah 40:28-31 (HCSB)

30 Youths may faint and grow weary, and young men stumble and fall,
Isaiah -- The Individual Hope

Isaiah 40:29-31 (HCSB)

31 but those who trust 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 faint.
Isaiah -- “Comfort My People”

The New Heavens and The New Earth

Isaiah 66 is a fitting climax to the book. God will lift up the humble, judge all people, destroy the wicked, bring all believers together, and establish the new heavens and the new earth. Let this hope encourage you each day.

Life Application Study Bible.
May the Holy One of Israel go with you!
Isaiah

The Book of Hope and Comfort