

## Handout 8-A

# The Prophet Isaiah

**Directions:** Read the cited scripture passages from the Book of Isaiah, the NABRE introduction to the book, and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

1. Perhaps the greatest of all the major prophets is the prophet \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Isaiah's ministry began at the death of King \_\_\_\_\_, and it may have continued after the death of King \_\_\_\_\_. (*See introduction.*)
3. Isaiah's message is characterized by the overwhelming sense that he had of the great gap between the holiness of God and humankind's own \_\_\_\_\_. (*See introduction.*)
4. For Isaiah, the outstanding quality of God is God's \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 6:3)
5. According to Isaiah, God does not want sacrifices that are insincere but rather wants people \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 1:17)
6. Isaiah received his call to be a prophet in 742 BC, the year which king died? \_\_\_\_\_ (Is 6:1)
7. Isaiah received his call while he was in the \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 6:1)
8. Read Isaiah 6:6–8. How is Isaiah purified for his job as a prophet of the Lord?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Isaiah sometimes is referred to as the aristocratic prophet or the statesman prophet. He was a counselor to kings of the time. Two kings he counseled were \_\_\_\_\_ (Is 7:3–17) and \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 39:3–8)
10. In a time of great political trouble, King Ahaz intended to ask the country of Assyria for help. Isaiah warned Ahaz not to seek Assyria's help but rather to trust the Lord. What will be the sign of God's protection, according to Isaiah? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Is 7:14)
11. As Isaiah had warned, the nation of Assyria waged war against Judah. In 701 BC, the city of Jerusalem was besieged by the Assyrian king named \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 36:1)
12. Although the Assyrians had King Hezekiah's forces surrounded and outnumbered, they could not enter Jerusalem. What happened? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Is 37:36)
13. Isaiah sees God as the ultimate cause for this destruction of the Assyrian army, but the immediate cause of the destruction was probably what? \_\_\_\_\_ (*See NABRE footnote.*)

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14. Chapter 40 begins the section of Isaiah known as the Book of Consolation. It deals with events in Judah's history from 587–538 BC. This is the period of great strife in Jewish history known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Whereas before Isaiah's words were ones of warning, now the words of Isaiah become words of \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 40:1–2)
16. This section of the book of Isaiah was probably not written by Isaiah, but perhaps by one or more disciples of his. This author is known as Deutero-Isaiah (from the Greek meaning "second") and is given this title because we don't know his real \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Chapters 40–55, besides comforting the people in exile, try to encourage them to stay faithful to the worship of the one true God. While the people are in exile, they are in danger of falling into \_\_\_\_\_.
18. In four places (Is 42:1–4, 49:1–6, 50:4–11, and 52:13–53:12), Deutero-Isaiah refers to a \_\_\_\_\_.
19. The Servant of the Lord will not appear glorious. In fact, Isaiah 53:1–3 says that this servant will have no majestic bearing to \_\_\_\_\_ nor beauty that would \_\_\_\_\_. Indeed, he will be spurned and \_\_\_\_\_.
20. In 538 BC, the Persians conquered Babylon, the captors of the Jews in the Exile. The Persian king let the Jews return to Jerusalem. The name of this king was \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 44:28)
21. The third section of the book of Isaiah begins in chapter 56 and continues until the last chapter, chapter 66. The primary message in this section is to remind the Jews that now that they are back in their homeland, they must \_\_\_\_\_. (Is 56:1)