



ABOUT ISAIAH

In today's Bible passage, we read about the people of Israel who were away from their homeland, Judah, for a long time. Many of them longed to return to Jerusalem in Judah. God speaks through the prophet Isaiah with an invitation. But what do we know about Isaiah?

Who was Isaiah?

Isaiah was one of the Bible's greatest prophets. He lived in Jerusalem when Judah was in danger from the Assyrians. Isaiah often gave God's message to King Hezekiah, telling the king to trust in God and not in alliances with neighbouring powerful countries.



What is the book of Isaiah?

The book of Isaiah describes three periods in Hebrew history, and today's reading is from the second period. Isaiah told the people that they would have some very hard times if they looked for their neighbouring nations to rescue them. Isaiah's message says that the people should rely on God and wait for the leader God would send.



What happened to the people of Judah?

The people of Judah were in a bad situation. Their threatening neighbours, the Assyrians, were conquered by the Babylonians, and then the Babylonians conquered the people of Judah. What a lot of wars. The people of Judah were captured and taken to Babylonia. They lived in exile away from their home in Jerusalem for a long, long, time.



A covenant is an agreement or promise. God made covenants with many people in the Hebrew Scriptures, promising to love and be with them, no matter what.

What does "covenant" mean?

