

<u>Isaiah 1-5</u> <b>Introduction</b> How can one be spared judgement and live happily ever after?	<u>Isaiah 6-39</u> <b>New Creation</b> God will rule over a new, perfect and eternal creation	<u>Isaiah 40-55</u> <b>New relationship</b> God will restore his people from exile to a permanent relationship	<u>Isaiah 56-66</u> <b>Who</b> God will choose the humble and reject the proud
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### Isaiah 3:1-4:6 (NIVUK)

**3** See now, the Lord,  
the LORD Almighty,  
is about to take from Jerusalem and Judah  
both supply and support:  
all supplies of food and all supplies of water,  
<sup>2</sup> the hero and the warrior,  
the judge and the prophet,  
the diviner and the elder,  
<sup>3</sup> the captain of fifty and the man of rank,  
the counsellor, skilled craftsman  
and clever enchanter.  
<sup>4</sup> ‘I will make mere youths their officials;  
children will rule over them.’  
<sup>5</sup> People will oppress each other –  
man against man, neighbour against neighbour.  
The young will rise up against the old,  
the nobody against the honoured.  
<sup>6</sup> A man will seize one of his brothers  
in his father’s house, and say,  
‘You have a cloak, you be our leader;  
take charge of this heap of ruins!’  
<sup>7</sup> But in that day he will cry out,  
‘I have no remedy.  
I have no food or clothing in my house;  
do not make me the leader of the people.’  
<sup>8</sup> Jerusalem staggers,  
Judah is falling;  
their words and deeds are against the LORD,  
defying his glorious presence.  
<sup>9</sup> The look on their faces testifies against them;  
they parade their sin like Sodom;  
they do not hide it.  
Woe to them!  
They have brought disaster upon themselves.

**Sunday 10 August 2025**

### God ruins Jerusalem:

- besieged (3:1)

- leaders taken or killed (3:2-7)

- the sinful and haughty judged  
(3:8-15)



**Andover  
Bible  
Church**

<u>Chapter 1-5 summary</u> How can one be spared judgement and live happily ever after?	<u>1:1-31</u> Judah's relationship with God has broken down horrendously	<u>2:1-5</u> God promises a future of world peace	<u>2:6-22</u> God promises to end the world, where he will humble the haughty
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<sup>10</sup> Tell the righteous it will be well with them,  
for they will enjoy the fruit of their deeds.

<sup>11</sup> Woe to the wicked!  
Disaster is upon them!

They will be paid back  
for what their hands have done.

<sup>12</sup> Youths oppress my people,  
women rule over them.

My people, your guides lead you astray;  
they turn you from the path.

<sup>13</sup> The LORD takes his place in court;  
he rises to judge the people.

<sup>14</sup> The LORD enters into judgment  
against the elders and leaders of his people:

'It is you who have ruined my vineyard;  
the plunder from the poor is in your houses.

<sup>15</sup> What do you mean by crushing my people  
and grinding the faces of the poor?'

declares the Lord, the LORD Almighty.

<sup>16</sup> The LORD says,

'The women of Zion are haughty,  
walking along with outstretched necks,  
flirting with their eyes,  
strutting along with swaying hips,  
with ornaments jingling on their ankles.

<sup>17</sup> Therefore the Lord will bring sores on the heads of  
the women of Zion;

the LORD will make their scalps bald.'

<sup>18</sup> In that day the Lord will snatch away their finery: the bangles and headbands and crescent necklaces, <sup>19</sup> the earrings and bracelets and veils, <sup>20</sup> the head-dresses and anklets and sashes, the perfume bottles and charms, <sup>21</sup> the signet rings and nose rings, <sup>22</sup> the fine robes and the capes and cloaks, the purses <sup>23</sup> and mirrors, and the linen garments and tiaras and shawls.

- Women: degraded from affluence to slavery (3:16-24)

<u>3:1-4:1</u> The Babylonian exile will lead to a pitiful remnant left in Jerusalem	<u>4:2-6</u> God promises a perfect future relationship with his people	<u>5:1-7</u> God feels exasperation and frustration towards Judah	<u>5:8-30</u> Judah's vast sin will be judged very harshly by God
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<sup>24</sup> Instead of fragrance there will be a stench;  
instead of a sash, a rope;  
instead of well-dressed hair, baldness;  
instead of fine clothing, sackcloth;  
instead of beauty, branding.

<sup>25</sup> Your men will fall by the sword,  
your warriors in battle.

<sup>26</sup> The gates of Zion will lament and mourn;  
destitute, she will sit on the ground.

4 In that day seven women  
will take hold of one man  
and say, 'We will eat our own food  
and provide our own clothes;  
only let us be called by your name.  
Take away our disgrace!'

<sup>2</sup> In that day the Branch of the LORD will be beautiful  
and glorious, and the fruit of the land will be the pride  
and glory of the survivors in Israel.

<sup>3</sup> Those who are left in Zion, who remain in Jerusalem,  
will be called holy, all who are recorded among the  
living in Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> The Lord will wash away the filth  
of the women of Zion; he will cleanse the bloodstains  
from Jerusalem by a spirit<sup>a</sup> of judgment and a spirit<sup>b</sup> of  
fire.

<sup>5</sup> Then the LORD will create over all of Mount Zion and  
over those who assemble there a cloud of smoke by day  
and a glow of flaming fire by night; over everything the  
glory<sup>c</sup> will be a canopy. <sup>6</sup> It will be a shelter and shade  
from the heat of the day, and a refuge and hiding-place  
from the storm and rain.

- Men: most are slain  
(3:25-4:1)

**God makes Jerusalem glorious:**

- Blessing (crops) (4:2)

- Holy people (4:3-4)

- God's protective presence  
everywhere (4:5-6)

<sup>a</sup> Or *the Spirit*

<sup>b</sup> Or *the Spirit*

<sup>c</sup> Or *over all the glory there*

### For reflection

1. Is your version of God 'allowed' to ruin Jerusalem like in Isaiah 3:1-4:1?
2. Which parts of Isaiah 3-4 do you find helpful or encouraging?
3. Which parts of Isaiah 3-4 do you want God's help to be able to read devotionally? Are there any OT references that you might need familiarity with?