

Isaiah 6-39 God will rule over a new, perfect and eternal creation	Ch 6-12 God will rule with goodness and power, replacing human kings	Ch 13-27 God will destroy evil and dismantle this creation	Ch 28-35 God will instantly reverse bad and sad situations to become happy and glad	Ch 36-39 Human kings cannot enable long-term happiness
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Isaiah 6 (NIVUK)

6 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: with two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³ And they were calling to one another:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.’

⁴ At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

⁵ ‘Woe to me!’ I cried. ‘I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.’

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷ With it he touched my mouth and said, ‘See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.’

⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?’

And I said, ‘Here am I. Send me!’

Sunday 24 August 2025

God in his throne room:

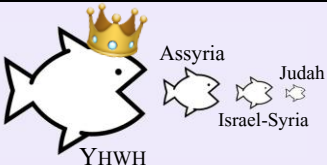
1. Splendour and majesty
(6:1-4)

2. ‘I will have mercy on
whom I will have
mercy’ cf. Exodus 33:19
(6:5-7)

3. Commands the
seemingly impossible
(6:8-13)



Andover
Bible
Church

Isaiah 6-12 God will rule with goodness and power, replacing human kings	6:1-13 King God is a total boss!	7:1-8:10 Kings: 	8:11-22 Listen to King God, or else!	9:1-7 A promised God-King who ends war
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⁹ He said, ‘Go and tell this people:

“‘Be ever hearing, but never understanding;
be ever seeing, but never perceiving.”

- A message of doom...

¹⁰ Make the heart of this people calloused;
make their ears dull
and close their eyes.^a

Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts,
and turn and be healed.’

¹¹ Then I said, ‘For how long, Lord?’

- ...which leads to exile.

And he answered:

‘Until the cities lie ruined
and without inhabitant,

until the houses are left deserted
and the fields ruined and ravaged,

¹² until the LORD has sent everyone far away
and the land is utterly forsaken.

¹³ And though a tenth remains in the land,
it will again be laid waste.

But as the terebinth and oak
leave stumps when they are cut down,
so the holy seed will be the stump in the land.’

- Only a tiny remnant will remain.

How does Isaiah 6 fit the whole book?

Ch1-5 sets up the question, *how can one be spared judgement and live happily ever after?*

In Ch6 we begin to see Isaiah’s answer, which is that *we need God to rule with his absolute boss-ness!*

^a Hebrew; Septuagint says:

“You will be ever hearing, but never understanding;
you will be ever seeing, but never perceiving.”

¹⁰ This people’s heart has become calloused;
they hardly hear with their ears,
and they have closed their eyes.

<u>9:8-10:4</u> God judges the terrible leaders of Israel	<u>10:5-34</u> God judges the arrogant King of Assyria	<u>11:1-10</u> A promised God-King who brings safety and harmony	<u>11:11-12:6</u> God promises a 2 nd Exodus
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Isaiah 6	NT reference	Direct quote or allusion
6:9-10	Matthew 13:14-15	Direct quote
6:9-10	Mark 4:12	Direct quote
6:9-10	Luke 8:10	Direct quote
6:9-10	John 12:40	Direct quote
6:9-10	Acts 28:25-27	Direct quote
6:9-10	Romans 11:8	Direct quote
6:1-4	Revelation 4:2-5	Allusion (throne room scene, 'Holy, holy, holy', smoke/glory)

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

Isaiah 6 highlights *the complete sovereignty of God*, including over the *blinding* of his own people.

1. [Diagnostic] To what extent do you feel God is ‘allowed’ to *blind* people?

2. [Diagnostic] How do you feel about so many New Testament books teaching along the same lines as Isaiah regarding *blindness*?

3. [Devotional] How does Isaiah 6 help you:
 - a. To see God as in charge now?

 - b. To look forward to his perfect and eternal rule in eternal life?
[in line with Isaiah’s book purpose]

4. [Devotional] Are there parts of Isaiah 6 that struck you? Are there parts that are difficult for you to hear?

Next Sunday (31 August): Isaiah 7:1-8:10 | Non-match day