

**1. The setting for Isaiah’s prophetic ministry**

- a) Isaiah 1:1-2a What important information can we learn about Isaiah from the opening verse of his book?
  - i) He was a real person, rather than a fictional character (son of Amoz).
  - ii) He had the prophetic gift. (see also Isaiah 6:1, Isaiah 46:9-10, Amos 3:7, Acts 21:8-11)
  - iii) His ministry spanned the reign of four kings. (circa 740-698 BC)
- b) Who were the intended recipients of his messages from the LORD? Isaiah 1:3, 2:1
- c) Why was Isaiah given the prophetic gift at this time? Isaiah 1:2-9

**2. Like Sodom and Gomorrah**

- a) Isaiah 1:10-15 Why did the LORD compare the people of Judah to the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah? (see Genesis 13:13, 18:20)
- b) Isaiah 1: 16-17 What appeal does the LORD make through the prophet Isaiah to the people of Judah? (see also Micah 6:8)
- c) How is such a transformation of behavior possible?
- d) What vital lesson can we learn from God’s judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah? Genesis 19:12-16

**3. God’s merciful offer of forgiveness and cleansing**

- a) Isaiah 1:18 What are your thoughts about this invitation from the LORD?

- b) Share other Bible promises of forgiveness and cleansing? Psalm 51:1-2, 1 John 1:9, etc.
- c) How does the love song recorded in Isaiah 5:1-7 reveal the loving and merciful character of God?
- d) Share a time when you accepted God’s merciful offer of forgiveness and cleansing.
- e) How would you respond to a friend who says, “I’ve committed too many sins—it’s too late for me!”?

**4. Choices determine destiny**

- a) Isaiah 1:19-20 What admonition and warning does the LORD convey through the prophet Isaiah? (see also Deuteronomy 30:15-19)
- b) We know we are saved by God’s grace, not by our own works. (Ephesians 2:8-9) How then do our choices determine our destiny?
- c) Why are there only two choices, and not a multitude of options? (see Matthew 7:13-14, John 14:6)
- d) Share a Bible story that illustrates choices determining destiny.
- e) Share a time when you experienced the blessings of God as you determined to follow Him.

