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Isaiah

Isaiah 1

Isaiah 1:1

ULT

¹ The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, that he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, {and} Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

UST

¹ The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, that Yahweh showed him about Judah and Jerusalem during the years of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Who was Isaiah?

Isaiah was the son of Amoz.

What was Isaiah's vision about?

Isaiah's vision was about Judah and Jerusalem.

When did Isaiah have his vision?

Isaiah had his vision in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Isaiah 1:2

ULT

² Hear, heavens, and give ear, earth; for Yahweh has spoken: "Children I have raised and brought up, but they have rebelled against me.

UST

² Hear, O heavens, and listen, O earth, because this is what Yahweh said: "I have raised people since they were born, but they have rebelled against me.

Why should the heavens hear and the earth listen?

The heavens should hear and the earth should listen because Yahweh has spoken.

What has Yahweh done?

He has nourished and brought up children

What have Yahweh's children done?

They have rebelled against Yahweh

Isaiah 1:3**ULT**

³ The ox knows his owner, and the donkey the feeding trough of his master, {but} Israel does not know, my people does not understand."

UST

³ Oxen know their owners, and donkeys know who feeds them, but Israel does not know; Israel does not understand."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:4**ULT**

⁴ Woe! Sinful nation, people heavy with iniquity, seed of evildoers, sons who act corruptly! They have abandoned Yahweh, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they have estranged themselves from him.

UST

⁴ Terrible things will happen to this sinful nation, this people group weighted down by their sin, these children of people who do evil things, these sons who are unjust. They have left Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel. They have turned away from him.

How is the nation described?

They are described as sinners, people full of iniquity, offspring of evil doers and sons that act corruptly.

What has the nation done?

They have abandoned Yahweh, estranging themselves from and despising the Holy One of Israel

Isaiah 1:5**ULT**

⁵ Why should you still be beaten, should you continue to rebel? The whole head is sick, the whole heart is weak.

UST

⁵ Why do you do things for which Yahweh should punish you? Why do you continue to rebel against him? You are like someone whose whole mind and heart are sick.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:6**ULT**

⁶ From the sole of the foot to the head {there is} no health in it; {but} bruises, and sores, and fresh wounds; they have not been pressed out, and they have not been bandaged, and they have not been softened with oil.

UST

⁶ From the bottom of the foot to the top of the head, nothing is healthy. There are open wounds, cuts, and sores that have not been cleaned or bandaged, and no one has put oil on them to heal them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:7**ULT**

⁷ Your land {is} a desolation; your cities {are} burned with fire; your field—in front of you strangers are devouring it; a desolation as the overthrowing of strangers.

UST

⁷ Enemies have ruined your country; they have burned your towns, and there is no one left. Foreigners plunder the crops in your fields while you watch; they destroy everything that they see.

What is the condition of their country and cities?

Their country is desolate and their cities are burned

Isaiah 1:8**ULT**

⁸ And Daughter Zion is left like a hut in a vineyard, like a shed in a cucumber field, like a besieged city.

UST

⁸ The city of Jerusalem has become as small as a shepherd's hut. It is like a shelter in a vineyard; it is like a watchman's hut in a field of melons. It is a city surrounded by its enemies who are waiting to attack it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:9**ULT**

⁹ If Yahweh of hosts had not left for us a few survivors, we would have been like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah.

UST

⁹ If Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, had not allowed a few of his people to survive, we would have all been destroyed, like the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed.

What has Yahweh left them?

He has left them a very small remnant.

Isaiah 1:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Hear the word of Yahweh, rulers of Sodom; listen to the law of our God, people of Gomorrah:

UST

¹⁰ Listen to what Yahweh has to say to you, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:11**ULT**

¹¹ "What is the multitude of your sacrifices to me?" says Yahweh. "I have had enough of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fatted beasts; and in the blood of bulls, lambs, or goats I do not delight.

UST

¹¹ "What do your many sacrifices mean to me?" says Yahweh; "I do not want any more burnt offerings of rams, or the fat of bulls. The blood of bulls, lambs, or goats does not make me happy.

What does not delight Yahweh?

He does not delight in the blood of bullocks, lambs and male goats.

Isaiah 1:12**ULT**

¹² When you come to appear before me, who has required this of you, to trample my courts?

UST

¹² When you come to my temple to worship me, who has told you to tramp around in my courtyard while you perform all those rituals?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:13**ULT**

¹³ Do not continue to bring an offering of worthlessness; incense is an abomination to me; new moon and Sabbath and calling of assemblies—I cannot endure iniquity with a festive assembly.

UST

¹³ Stop bringing to me those offerings, because they are useless to me; I am disgusted with the incense that the priests burn! And your feasts to celebrate the new moon each month and your Sabbath days and your other festivals— I hate them because of the wicked things that you do!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:14**ULT**

¹⁴ My soul hates your new moons and your appointed feasts; they are a burden to me; I have become weary with carrying.

UST

¹⁴ I hate all your celebrations of the new moon and the other festivals that you celebrate. They are like a heavy burden that I am tired of carrying.

What does Yahweh hate?

He hates their new moons and appointed feasts

Isaiah 1:15**ULT**

¹⁵ So when you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you multiply prayer, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.

UST

¹⁵ So when you lift up your hands to pray to me, I will not look at you. Even if you pray to me often, I will not listen to you, because it is as though your hands are covered with the blood of people whom you have killed.

Why will Yahweh not hear their prayers?

He will not hear because their hands are full of blood.

Isaiah 1:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Wash, cleanse yourselves; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; stop doing evil;

UST

¹⁶ Wash your hearts and become clean! Get rid of your evil behavior! Stop doing things that are wrong!

What does Yahweh tell them to do? (vv16-17)

Yahweh tells them to stop being evil; learn to do good; seek justice, help the oppressed, give justice to the fatherless and defend the widow.

Isaiah 1:17**ULT**

¹⁷ learn to do good; seek justice, correct the oppressor, ^[1] give justice to the fatherless, contend for the widow."

UST

¹⁷ Learn to do deeds that are good and try to cause people to do what is just. Stop people from mistreating others, and defend orphans and widows when people take them to court."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:18**ULT**

¹⁸ “Come now, and let us argue together,” says Yahweh; “though your sins are like scarlet, they will be white like snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool.

UST

¹⁸ Yahweh says, “You need to think about what you do. Even though your sins are like scarlet red, they will be as white as snow; though your sins are like crimson red, they will be as white as sheeps’ wool.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:19**ULT**

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land,

UST

¹⁹ If you are willing to obey me, you will eat good food from the land.

What must they do to eat the good of the land?

They must be willing and obedient.

Isaiah 1:20**ULT**

²⁰ but if you refuse and rebel, by the sword you will be devoured,” for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken.

UST

²⁰ But if you turn away from me and rebel against me, your enemies will slaughter you.” That will happen because Yahweh said it.

What will happen if they refuse and rebel?

The sword will devour them

Isaiah 1:21**ULT**

²¹ How the faithful city has become a prostitute! She who was full of justice—righteousness lodged in her, but now murderers.

UST

²¹ At one time you people of Jerusalem faithfully worshiped only Yahweh, but now you have become like prostitutes who are not faithful to any husband. The people there always acted justly and righteously, but now your city is full of murderers.

What was the faithful city like before she became a prostitute?

The faithful city was full of justice and righteousness.

What did the faithful city become full of?

The faithful city became full of murderers.

Isaiah 1:22**ULT**

²² Your silver has become dross, your wine mixed with water.

UST

²² Your silver is no longer pure, and your wine has become mixed with water.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:23**ULT**

²³ Your princes {are} rebels and companions of thieves; everyone loves bribes and runs after payoffs. They do not defend the fatherless, and the legal plea of the widow does not come before them.

UST

²³ Your leaders are rebels; they are friends of thieves. They all want to get money and make others to give them gifts in order to decide cases in court in their favor. They do not defend orphans in court, and they do not help widows to get what they should receive.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:24**ULT**

²⁴ Therefore this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel: "Woe! I will take vengeance against my adversaries, and avenge myself against my enemies;

UST

²⁴ Therefore Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, the mighty God of Israel, says, "I will get revenge against those who are against me, and avenge myself on my enemies.

What will Yahweh do?

He will take vengeance against his adversaries.

Isaiah 1:25**ULT**

²⁵ I will turn my hand against you, refine away your dross as with lye, and take away all your dross.

UST

²⁵ I will raise my fist to strike you, and I will punish you severely, as though you were silver and I needed to heat you very greatly to melt you and get rid of the impurities.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:26**ULT**

²⁶ I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning; afterwards you will be called the city of righteousness, a faithful town."

UST

²⁶ After that happens, I will give you good judges like you had in the past. You will have wise counselors like you had long ago. Then people will call your city a city where people act righteously, a faithful city."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:27**ULT**

²⁷ Zion will be redeemed by justice, and her repentant ones by righteousness.

UST

²⁷ Because the people of Jerusalem will do what is fair, Yahweh will restore their city, and he will save those who repent because of their righteousness.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:28**ULT**

²⁸ Rebels and sinners {will be} crushed together, and those who abandon Yahweh will come to an end.

UST

²⁸ But he will crush rebels and sinners, and those who forsake him will disappear.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:29**ULT**

²⁹ "For they will be ashamed of the sacred oak trees that you desired, and you will be embarrassed by the gardens that you have chosen.

UST

²⁹ "You will be ashamed because you worshiped idols under the oak trees that you thought were sacred, and you will be disgraced because you worshiped idols in the gardens that you loved so much.

What will make them ashamed and embarrassed?

They will be ashamed of the sacred oak trees they desired and embarrassed by the gardens they have chosen

Isaiah 1:30**ULT**

³⁰ For you will be like an oak whose leaf fades, and like a garden that has no water.

UST

³⁰ You will be like a very large tree that has withered leaves, like a garden that has dried up because it has no water.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 1:31

ULT

31 The strong man will be like tinder, and his work like a spark; both of them will burn together, and there will be no one to quench {them}.”

1:17 ^[1], some versions have .

UST

31 Those among you who are very strong will become like dry wood, and the work they do will be like a spark. Both they and the evil things that they do will burn up, and no one will be able to put out the fire.”

What will happen to the strong man and his work?

They will both burn together

Isaiah 2

Isaiah 2:1

ULT

¹ The things that Isaiah son of Amoz perceived in a vision, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

UST

¹ This is a message that Yahweh gave to Isaiah son of Amoz, in a vision about Judah and Jerusalem.

What did the word that Isaiah saw concern?

The word Isaiah saw concerned Judah and Jerusalem.

Isaiah 2:2

ULT

² It will be in the last days {that} the mountain of Yahweh's house will be established as the highest of the mountains, and it will be raised up above the hills, and all the nations will flow to it.

UST

² In the future, the hill on which Yahweh's temple is built will be the most important place on the earth. It will be as though it is the highest mountain, as though it has been raised up above all other hills, and people from all over the world will come there.

What will happen in the latter days?

In the latter days the mountain of Yahweh's house will be established.

Who will come into Yahweh's house?

All nations will flow to it.

Isaiah 2:3**ULT**

³ Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of the God of Jacob, so he may teach us some of his ways, and we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion will go the law, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem.

UST

³ People from many people groups will say to each other, "Come, let us go up to the hill, to the temple of Yahweh, to worship the God whom Jacob worshiped. There he will teach us what he desires us to know, in order that our behavior will please him." They will teach us in Jerusalem; we will learn there what Yahweh desires to tell us.

Why will many people go up to the mountain of Yahweh?

They will go up to be taught some of Yahweh's ways.

Isaiah 2:4**ULT**

⁴ He will judge between the nations and will render decisions for many peoples; they will hammer their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they train for war any longer.

UST

⁴ Yahweh will listen to the disputes between nations, and he will settle their arguments. Then, instead of fighting against each other, they will hammer their swords into plow blades, and they will hammer their spears into pruning knives. The armies of the nations will no longer fight against each other, and they will not even train men to fight in battles.

What will Yahweh do for the nations and many peoples?

Yahweh will judge them and render decisions.

What will the nations not do?

They will not lift up the sword against one another or train for war.

Isaiah 2:5**ULT**

⁵ House of Jacob, come, and let us walk in the light of Yahweh.

UST

⁵ You descendants of Jacob, let us behave in the way that we should because Yahweh is with us!

What is the house of Jacob told to do?

They are told to walk in the light of Yahweh.

Isaiah 2:6**ULT**

⁶ For you have abandoned your people, the house of Jacob, because they are filled with customs from the east and they practice divination like the Philistines, and they shake hands with sons of foreigners.

UST

⁶ Yahweh, you have abandoned us, your people who are descendants of Jacob, because everywhere your people practice the customs of people who live east of Israel. They also perform rituals to find out what will happen in the future, like the people in Philistia do. They make agreements with foreigners who do not know Yahweh.

What has Yahweh done?

He has abandoned his people, the house of Jacob.

Why has Yahweh abandoned the house of Jacob?

He has abandoned them because they are filled with customs from the east and are omen readers like the Philistines, and they shake hands with sons of foreigners.

Isaiah 2:7**ULT**

⁷ Their land is full of silver and gold, and is there no limit to their wealth; their land also is full of horses, nor is there limit to their chariots.

UST

⁷ Israel is full of silver and gold; there are very many treasures here. The land is full of war horses and war chariots.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:8**ULT**

⁸ Their land also is full of idols; they worship the craftsmanship of their own hands, things that their own fingers have made.

UST

⁸ But the land is also full of idols; the people worship things that they have made with their own hands.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:9**ULT**

⁹ The people will be bowed down, and individuals will fall down; therefore do not raise them up.

UST

⁹ So now they will be humbled; Yahweh will disgrace them. Yahweh, do not forgive them!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Go into the rocky places and hide in the ground from the terror of Yahweh and from the glory of his majesty.

UST

¹⁰ All you people should crawl into the caves in the rock cliffs! You should hide in pits in the ground because you will be afraid of Yahweh and of his glorious and awesome power.

Why should the house of Jacob enter into the rocky places and hide in the dust?

They should hide because of the terror of Yahweh and the glory of his majesty.

Isaiah 2:11**ULT**

¹¹ The lofty gaze of man will be brought low, and the pride of men will be brought down, and Yahweh alone will be exalted on that day.

UST

¹¹ Yahweh will cause you people to no longer be arrogant and he will stop you from being proud. On that day people will praise and honor only Yahweh.

What will happen to the lofty gaze and pride of men?

They will be brought low and brought down.

Who will be exalted on that day?

Yahweh alone will be exalted on that day.

Isaiah 2:12**ULT**

¹² For there will be a day of Yahweh of hosts against everyone who is proud and raised up, and against everyone who is arrogant—and he will be {brought} down—

UST

¹² Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, has chosen a day when he will judge those who are proud, every one of them, and he will humble them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:13**ULT**

¹³ and against all the cedars of Lebanon {that are} high and lifted up, and against all the oaks of Bashan.

UST

¹³ He will get rid of all those who think others should admire them, like the tall cedar trees in Lebanon, and like all the great oak trees in the region of Bashan.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:14**ULT**

¹⁴ That day of Yahweh of hosts will be against all the high mountains, and against all the hills {that are} lifted up,

UST

¹⁴ He will get rid of all those who think they are as great as all the high hills, as great as the high mountains.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:15**ULT**

¹⁵ and against every high tower, and against every impregnable wall,

UST

¹⁵ He will get rid of all those who think that they are like high towers and high strong walls inside of which they are safe.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:16**ULT**

¹⁶ and against all the ships of Tarshish, and against all beautiful sailing vessels.

UST

¹⁶ He will destroy all those who are rich because they own big ships that carry goods to other countries and own other beautiful ships, too.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:17**ULT**

¹⁷ The pride of man will be brought low, and the haughtiness of men will fall; Yahweh alone will be exalted on that day.

UST

¹⁷ He will cause people to no longer be arrogant, and he will cause them to stop being proud. On that day people will praise and honor only Yahweh.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:18**ULT**

¹⁸ The idols will completely pass away.

UST

¹⁸ All idols will disappear then.

What will happen to the idols?

They will completely pass away.

Isaiah 2:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Men will go into the caves of the rocks and the holes of the ground, from the terror of Yahweh, and from the glory of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth.

UST

¹⁹ When Yahweh comes to terrify the people on the earth, they will run to hide in caves in rock cliffs and in holes in the ground, because they are afraid of Yahweh and of his glorious and awesome power.

Where will men go on that day?

They will go into caves of the rocks and holes of the ground.

Isaiah 2:20**ULT**

²⁰ On that day people will throw away their idols of silver and of gold that they have made for themselves to worship—they will throw them away to the moles and bats.

UST

²⁰ On that day, people will get rid of all their gold and silver idols that they made to worship, and they will throw them to the bats and rats.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:21**ULT**

²¹ The people will go into the crevices in the rocks and into the clefts of the {ragged} rocks, from the terror of Yahweh and from the glory of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth.

UST

²¹ Then they will crawl into caves and hide in holes in the cliffs. They will try to escape from Yahweh, who is coming to punish them; They will fear what he will do because he is glorious and awesome, when he comes to terrify the people on the earth.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 2:22**ULT**

²² Stop trusting in man, whose life-breath {is} in his nostrils, for what does he amount to?

UST

²² So do not trust that people will save you, because they are as powerless as a person's breath. People certainly cannot help you!

Who is the house of Jacob told to stop trusting?

They are told to stop trusting in man.

Isaiah 3**Isaiah 3:1****ULT**

¹ See, the Lord Yahweh of hosts is about to take away from Jerusalem and from Judah support and staff: the whole supply of bread and the whole supply of water;

UST

¹ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, is about to take away from Jerusalem and other places in Judah everything that you depend on— all food and water.

What is Yahweh about to take away from Jerusalem and Judah?

Yahweh is about to take away their support and staff.

Isaiah 3:2**ULT**

² the mighty man and the warrior, the judge and the prophet, the one who practices divination and the elder,

UST

² He will take away heroes and other soldiers, judges and prophets, people who do rituals to find out what will happen in the future and the elders,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:3**ULT**

³ the captain of fifty and the respected citizen, the counselor, the expert craftsman and the skillful enchanter.

UST

³ army officers and other important people, advisors, skilled craftsmen, and those who perform rituals of magic.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:4**ULT**

⁴ "I will place mere youths as their leaders, and the young will rule over them.

UST

⁴ Yahweh says, "I will appoint boys to be leaders; young children will rule.

Who will lead Judah and Jerusalem?

Youths will lead them and the young will rule over them.

Isaiah 3:5**ULT**

⁵ The people will be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbor; the child will insult the elderly, and the degraded will challenge the honorable.

UST

⁵ People will treat each other cruelly: people will fight against their neighbors. Young people will say shameful things against older people, and vulgar people will sneer at people whom others usually honor.

Who will oppress the people?

The people will be oppressed by each other and everyone by his neighbor.

Isaiah 3:6**ULT**

⁶ A man will even take hold of his brother in his father's house {and say}, 'You have a coat; be our ruler, and {let} this ruin {be} in your hands.'

UST

⁶ At that time, someone will grab one of his brothers in his father's house and say to him, 'You still have a coat; people respect you for that. So you be our leader! You rule this city, which is now a pile of ruins.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:7**ULT**

⁷ On that day he will shout and say, 'I will not be a healer; I have no bread or clothing. You will not make me ruler of the people.'"

UST

⁷ But his brother will reply, 'No, I cannot help you, because I do not have any extra food or clothes in this house. So do not make me your leader!'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:8**ULT**

⁸ For Jerusalem has stumbled, and Judah has fallen, because their speech and their actions {are} against Yahweh, defying the eyes of his glory.

UST

⁸ The people in Jerusalem and the other towns in Judah have disobeyed God, because everything that the people do and say there opposes Yahweh, the powerful and glorious one, and they refuse to obey him. They rebel against him.

Why is Jerusalem ruined and Judah fallen?

They are ruined and fallen because their speech and actions are against Yahweh.

Isaiah 3:9**ULT**

⁹ The look on their faces witnesses against them; and they tell of their sin like Sodom; they do not hide {it.} Woe to them! For they have completed a catastrophe for themselves.

UST

⁹ They even show on their faces that they oppose Yahweh. They are proud about their sins, like the people of Sodom were long ago; they do not try to hide their sins; they talk about them. Because of their sins, terrible things will certainly happen to them.

What witnesses against Judah and Jerusalem?

The look on their faces witnesses against them.

Isaiah 3:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Tell the righteous person that it will be well, for they will eat the fruit of their deeds.

UST

¹⁰ You people must tell the righteous people that good things will happen to them; they will enjoy the blessings that they will receive for their good deeds.

What will happen to the righteous?

It will be well with the righteous.

Isaiah 3:11**ULT**

¹¹ Woe to the wicked! It will go badly for him, for the recompense of his hands will be done to him.

UST

¹¹ But terrible things will happen to wicked people; Yahweh will pay them back for the evil things that they have done.

What will happen to the wicked?

It will go badly for the wicked.

Isaiah 3:12**ULT**

¹² My people—children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. My people, those who guide you lead {you} astray and confuse the direction of your path.

UST

¹² Youths who have become leaders treat my people cruelly, and women rule over my people. My people, your leaders are misleading you; they are causing you to do all kinds of evil things.

Where do their leaders lead them?

Their leaders lead them astray and confuse the direction of their path.

Isaiah 3:13**ULT**

¹³ Yahweh stands up for an accusation; he is standing to accuse the people.

UST

¹³ It is as though Yahweh had taken his place in a courtroom and were ready to accuse his people of breaking the covenant between themselves and him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Yahweh will come with judgment against the elders of his people and their leaders: "You have ruined the vineyard; the plunder from the poor {is} in your houses.

UST

¹⁴ He will stand up to declare why he should punish the elders and rulers of his people; he says, "The people of Israel are like a vineyard that I planted, but you leaders have made unable to bear any fruit. Your houses are full of things that you have stolen from poor people.

What will Yahweh do to the elders and officials of his people?

Yahweh will pronounce judgment on them.

Isaiah 3:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Why do you crush my people and grind the faces of the poor?" This is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh of hosts.

UST

¹⁵ You should stop making my people suffer. It is as though you were pushing the faces of poor people into the ground." That is what Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, says.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Yahweh says that because the daughters of Zion are proud, they walk with their necks extended, with flirting eyes, walking with tiny steps as they go, making tinkling sounds from bracelets on their ankles.

UST

¹⁶ Yahweh says this: "The women of Jerusalem are haughty; they walk around sticking their chins out, and flirting with men with their eyes. They walk with tiny steps with bracelets on their ankles that jingle."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Therefore the Lord will form scabs on the heads of the daughters of Zion, and Yahweh will make them bald.

UST

¹⁷ So the Lord will cause sores to be on their heads, and he will cause those beautiful women in Jerusalem to become bald.

What will the Lord, Yahweh do to the daughters of Zion?

Yahweh will form diseased scabs on their heads and make them bald.

Isaiah 3:18**ULT**

¹⁸ On that day the Lord will remove their beautiful ankle jewelry, head bands, the crescent ornaments,

UST

¹⁸ At the time that the Lord does that, he will also cause others to take away from the women of Jerusalem all of the beautiful things they like to wear—the ornaments on their ankles and their headbands, their crescent necklaces,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:19**ULT**¹⁹ the ear pendants, the bracelets, and the veils;**UST**¹⁹ their earrings and bracelets and veils,*(There are no questions for this verse.)***Isaiah 3:20****ULT**²⁰ the headscarves, the ankle chains, the sashes, and the perfume boxes, and the lucky charms.**UST**²⁰ their scarves and ankle bracelets and sashes, their perfumes and charms.*(There are no questions for this verse.)***Isaiah 3:21****ULT**²¹ He will remove the rings and the nose jewels;**UST**²¹ He will cause others to remove the women's finger rings and nose rings,*(There are no questions for this verse.)***Isaiah 3:22****ULT**²² the festive robes, the mantles, the veils, and the handbags;**UST**²² their nice robes and capes and veils and purses,*(There are no questions for this verse.)*

Isaiah 3:23**ULT**

²³ the hand mirrors, the fine linen, the head pieces, and the wraps.

UST

²³ their mirrors and nice linen clothes, the ornaments for their heads, and the shawls.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:24**ULT**

²⁴ Instead of sweet perfume there will be stench; and instead of a sash, a rope; instead of well-arranged hair, baldness; and instead of a robe, a covering of sackcloth; and branding instead of beauty.

UST

²⁴ Instead of smelling nice from perfume, they will stink; instead of beautiful sashes, they will have ropes around their waists. Instead of having fancy hairdos, they will be bald. Instead of fancy robes, they will wear rough sackcloth, Instead of beauty, scars of branding.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 3:25**ULT**

²⁵ Your men will fall by the sword, and your strong men will fall in war.

UST

²⁵ Your men will die by their enemies' swords, and your soldiers will also die in battle.

What will happen to the men?

The men will fall by the sword

Isaiah 3:26**ULT**

²⁶ Jerusalem's gates will lament and mourn; and she will be alone and sit upon the ground.

UST

²⁶ People will mourn and cry at the gates of the city. The city will be like a woman who sits on the ground because all her friends have deserted her.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 4

Isaiah 4:1

ULT

¹ On that day seven women will take hold of one man and say, "Our own food we will eat, our own clothing we will wear. But let us take your name to remove our shame."

UST

¹ When that happens, there will be very few unmarried men. So seven unmarried women will grab one man and say, "Allow us all to marry you! We will provide our own food and clothing. All that we want is to no longer be disgraced because of not being married."

Why will seven women take hold of one man?

They will want to take his name and remove their shame.

Isaiah 4:2

ULT

² On that day the branch of Yahweh will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land will be tasty and delightful for those survivors in Israel.

UST

² But some day, Israel will be very beautiful and great. The people of Israel who will still be there will be very proud of the wonderful crops that will grow in their land.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 4:3

ULT

³ It will happen that {the one who is} left in Zion and the one who remains in Jerusalem will be called holy, everyone who is written down as living in Jerusalem.

UST

³ All the people who will remain in Jerusalem, who did not die when the enemy destroyed Jerusalem, will belong to the Lord—all those whose names are listed among those who live there.

What will those survivors left in Zion and Jerusalem be called?

The survivors who are left in Zion and Jerusalem will be called holy.

Isaiah 4:4**ULT**

⁴ This will happen when the Lord will have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and will have cleansed the blood stains from Jerusalem's midst, by means of the spirit of judgment and the spirit of flaming fire.

UST

⁴ That will happen when the Lord washes away the guilt of the women of Jerusalem, and when he stops the violence on the streets of Jerusalem by punishing the people of Jerusalem. When he does that, it will be like a fire that burns up all the impure things.

What will the Lord do by the spirit of justice and by the spirit of burning fire?

The Lord will wash away the filth of the daughters of Zion and cleanse the blood stains from Jerusalem's midst.

Isaiah 4:5**ULT**

⁵ Then over the whole site of Mount Zion and over her place of assembly, Yahweh will create cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night; it {will be} a canopy over all the glory.

UST

⁵ Then Yahweh will send a cloud of smoke during the days and a flaming fire during the nights to cover Jerusalem and all those who gather there; it will be like a canopy over God's glorious presence in the city.

What will Yahweh create over the whole site of Mount Zion and over her place of assembly?

He will create a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night; a canopy over all the glory

Isaiah 4:6**ULT**

⁶ It will be a shelter for shade in the daytime from the heat, and a refuge and a cover from the storm and rain.

UST

⁶ It will shelter the people from the sun during the daytime and protect them when there are windstorms and rain.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5

Isaiah 5:1

ULT

¹ Let me sing for my well beloved, a song of my beloved about his vineyard. My well beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

UST

¹ Now I will sing a song about Yahweh, my dear friend, and about his vineyard. The vineyard was on a very fertile hillside.

For whom does the singer want to sing?

The singer wants to sing for his beloved

What is the song of the singer about?

The song is about the vineyard of his beloved.

Isaiah 5:2

ULT

² He spaded it, removed the stones, and planted it with an excellent kind of vine. He built a tower in the middle of it, and also built a winepress. He waited for {it} to produce grapes, but it only produced wild grapes.

UST

² My friend plowed the ground and cleared away the stones. Then he planted very good grapevines on that ground. In the middle of the vineyard, he built a watchtower, and he dug a winepress. Then he waited each year to harvest some good grapes, but the vines produced only sour grapes.

What did he do to the vineyard?

He spaded it, removed the stones, planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower and a winepress in it.

What did the vineyard bring forth?

The vineyard brought forth wild grapes.

Isaiah 5:3**ULT**

³ So now, inhabitant of Jerusalem and man of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

UST

³ Now this is what my friend Yahweh says: "You people of Jerusalem and other places in Judah, You are like my vineyard; so you judge which of us has done what is right.

What are the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the men of Judah to judge?

They are to judge between the beloved and his vineyard.

Isaiah 5:4**ULT**

⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard, that I have not done for it? When I looked for {it} to produce grapes, why did it produce wild grapes?

UST

⁴ What more could I have done for you than what I have already done? I expected you to be doing good deeds, so it is disgusting that you were doing only evil deeds like the vineyard that produced only sour grapes!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:5**ULT**

⁵ Now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will remove the hedge, I will turn it into a pasture, I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled down.

UST

⁵ So, I will now tell you what I will do to Judah, the place that is like my vineyard. I will cut down the hedges, and my vineyard will become a pasture. I will tear down the walls of the cities and allow wild animals to trample the land.

What will the beloved do to his vineyard? (vv5-6)

He will remove the hedge, turn the vineyard into a pasture, and break down its wall so it will be laid waste and no rain will fall on it.

Isaiah 5:6**ULT**

⁶ I will lay it waste, and it will not be pruned nor hoed. Instead, briers and thorns will spring up. I will also command the clouds not to rain on it.

UST

⁶ I will cause it to become a wasteland where the vines are not pruned and the ground is not hoed. It will be a place where briers and thorns grow. And I will command that no rain will fall on it."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:7**ULT**

⁷ For the vineyard of Yahweh of hosts {is} the house of Israel, and the man of Judah his pleasant planting; he waited for justice, but instead, there was killing; for righteousness, but, instead, a shout {for help}.

UST

⁷ The nation of Israel is like the vineyard of Yahweh who is commander of the angel armies. The people of Judah are like the garden that was pleasing to him. He expected them to be doing what is just, but instead, what he saw was people murdering others. He expected that they would be doing righteous deeds, but instead, he heard people shouting for someone to help them, because others were attacking them.

Who is the vineyard of Yahweh of Hosts?

Yahweh's vineyard is the house of Israel.

What did Yahweh wait for?

Yahweh waited for justice and righteousness.

What did Yahweh get instead of justice and righteousness?

Yahweh got killing and a cry for help.

Isaiah 5:8**ULT**

⁸ Woe to those who join house to house, who join field to field, until no room remains, and you alone remain in the land!

UST

⁸ Terrible things will happen to those who keep acquiring houses and fields without paying attention to the laws about who owns the land. You use your riches to gain more and more property, and soon there is no more property for others to buy, and you would be the only land owners there are in that place.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:9**ULT**

⁹ Yahweh of hosts {told} me, many houses will be empty, even great and impressive ones, without any inhabitant.

UST

⁹ But I heard Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, solemnly declare this: "Some day, many houses will have no one to live in them, even the large and beautiful homes will be empty."

What will happen to many houses?

Many houses will be empty and without inhabitant.

Isaiah 5:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For a ten-yoke vineyard will yield only one bath, and one homer of seed will yield only an ephah.

UST

¹⁰ The land that grows vines in this place should require ten pairs of oxen to work them, but this land would not produce enough grapes to make even twenty liters of wine. When ten baskets of seed are sown on that land, that land will only produce one basket of grain at harvest time."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:11**ULT**

¹¹ Woe to those who rise up early in the morning to obtain strong drink, those who linger late into the night {until} wine inflames them.

UST

¹¹ Terrible things will happen to those who get up early each morning to begin drinking alcoholic drinks, and who stay awake until late at night drinking a lot more wine until they are completely drunk.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:12**ULT**

¹² They banquet with harp, lute, tambourine, flute, and wine, but they do not recognize the work of Yahweh, nor have they considered the doings of his hands.

UST

¹² They have big parties and provide lots of wine. At their parties, there are people playing harps and lyres and tambourines and flutes, but they never think about what Yahweh does or appreciate what he has created.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:13**ULT**

¹³ Therefore my people have gone into captivity for lack of understanding; their honored leaders go hungry, and their common people have nothing to drink.

UST

¹³ So my people will be exiled far away because they do not know about me. Those who are now very important and honored will starve, and the other people will die from thirst.

Why have the people of Israel and Judah gone into captivity?

They went into captivity because they lacked understanding.

Isaiah 5:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Therefore Sheol has made its appetite greater and has opened its mouth very wide; their elite, the people, their leaders, and the revelers and those who are happy among them, descend into Sheol.

UST

¹⁴ It is as though the place where the dead people are is eagerly looking for more Israelite people, opening its mouth to swallow them, and a huge number of people will be thrown into that place, including their leaders as well as a noisy crowd of people who enjoy living in Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Man will be forced to bend down, and mankind will be humbled; the eyes of the lofty will be cast down.

UST

¹⁵ Yahweh will humble everyone; he will humble everyone who is proud.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Yahweh of hosts will be exalted in his justice, and God the Holy One will show himself holy by his righteousness.

UST

¹⁶ But everyone will honor Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, the Holy One, because he has acted justly. God will show that he is holy by doing righteous deeds.

What exalts Yahweh of Hosts?

Yahweh's justice exalts him

How is God the Holy one recognized?

God is recognized by his righteous dealings.

Isaiah 5:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Then the sheep will feed as in their own pasture, and in the ruins, lambs will graze as foreigners. ^[1]

UST

¹⁷ Then sheep and lambs will be able to find good grass to eat; they will pass through the ruined places to eat the grass.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Woe to those who pull along iniquity with useless cords and who pull along sin as if it were with a cart rope.

UST

¹⁸ Some people who are working hard to sin, working as hard as if they were dragging behind them the wrong and useless things that they are doing. Terrible things will happen to them!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Woe to those who say, "Let God hurry, let him act quickly, so we can see {it} happen; and let the plans of the Holy One of Israel come, so that we may know them."

UST

¹⁹ They make fun of God and say to him, "Quickly do something to punish us! We want to see what you will do. You, the Holy One of Israel, should do what you are planning to do, because we want to know what it is."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:20**ULT**

²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who represent darkness as light, and light as darkness; who represent bitter as sweet, and sweet as bitter!

UST

²⁰ Terrible things will happen to those who say that evil is good, and that good is evil, that darkness is light and that light is darkness, that what is bitter is sweet and what is sweet is bitter.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:21**ULT**

²¹ Woe to {those who are} wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own understanding!

UST

²¹ Terrible things will happen to those who think that they are wise and that they are very clever.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:22**ULT**

²² {Woe} to those who are champions at drinking wine, and masters at mixing strong drinks;

UST

²² Terrible things will happen to those who think that they are heroes because they are able to drink lots of wine, and who boast about being able to mix good alcoholic drinks.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:23**ULT**

²³ who acquit the wicked for payment, and deprive the innocent of his rights!

UST

²³ If people offer these corrupt judges money so they will not punish the wicked, they accept that money. These same judges punish innocent people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:24**ULT**

²⁴ Therefore as the tongue of fire devours stubble, and as the dry grass goes down in flame, so their root will rot, and their blossom will blow away like dust. This will happen because they have rejected the law of Yahweh of hosts, and because they have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

UST

²⁴ Therefore, just like fires burn up stubble and dry grass shrivels up and quickly burns in flames, it will be as though those people have roots that will rot and have flowers that will wither. That will happen because they rejected the laws of Yahweh, commander of the angel armies; they have despised the messages of the Holy One of Israel.

Why will Israel's root rot, and their blossom blow away like dust?

Israel's root will rot, and their blossom will blow away like dust because they have rejected the law of Yahweh and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 5:25**ULT**

²⁵ Therefore the anger of Yahweh is kindled against his people. He has reached out with his hand against them and has punished them. The mountains tremble, and their corpses are like garbage in the streets. In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand [is] still stretched out.

UST

²⁵ That is why Yahweh is extremely angry with his people; it is as though his hand is raised and he is ready to smash them. When he does that, the mountains will shake, and the corpses of people will be scattered in the streets like manure. But even when that happens, Yahweh will still be very angry; he will be ready to punish his people again.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:26**ULT**

²⁶ He will lift up a signal flag for far away nations and will whistle for those at the end of the earth. Look, they will come speedily and promptly.

UST

²⁶ Yahweh will send a signal to summon armies of nations far away; it is as though he will whistle to those soldiers who are in very remote places on the earth. They will come very swiftly toward Jerusalem.

How will Yahweh call a far away nation to come?

He will call them by lifting up a signal flag and whistling for them.

How will that far away nation come?

That far away nation will come speedily and promptly.

Isaiah 5:27**ULT**

²⁷ None tire or stumble among them; none slumbers or sleeps. Nor are their belts loose, or the thongs of their sandals broken.

UST

²⁷ They will not get tired or stumble. They will not stop to rest or to sleep. None of their belts will be loose, and none of them will have sandals with broken straps, so they will all be ready to fight in battles.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:28**ULT**

²⁸ Their arrows {are} sharp and all their bows are bent; their horses' hooves are like flint, and their chariot wheels like storms.

UST

²⁸ Their arrows will be sharp, and their bows will be ready to shoot those arrows in a battle. Because their horses pull the chariots fast, sparks will shoot out from their hooves, and the wheels of the chariots will spin like whirlwinds.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:29**ULT**

²⁹ Their roaring {will be} like a lion; they will roar like young lions. They will growl and seize the prey and drag {it} away, with none to rescue.

UST

²⁹ They will roar like fierce lions that growl and then pounce on the animals they want to kill; they will carry them off, and no one will be able to rescue them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 5:30**ULT**

³⁰ On that day they will roar against the prey as the sea roars. If {anyone} looks over the land, he will see darkness and suffering; even the light will be made dark by the clouds.
5:17 ^[1].

UST

³⁰ Similarly, your enemies will roar over the people they are about to kill, like the sea roars. On that day, if someone looks across the land, he will see only people who are in darkness and distress; it will be as though even the sunlight is hidden by dark clouds.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 6

Isaiah 6:1

ULT

¹ In the year that king Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne; he was high and elevated, and the hem of his {robe} filled the temple.

UST

¹ During the year that King Uzziah died, Yahweh showed me a vision. In the vision, I saw Yahweh sitting on a throne, high above everyone else. He was wearing a very long robe that covered the floor of the temple.

When did Isaiah see the Lord sitting on a high and elevated throne?

Isaiah saw the Lord in the year that king Uzziah died.

Isaiah 6:2

ULT

² Above him were the seraphim; {each} one had six wings; with two each covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

UST

² Above him were hovering several winged creatures. Each of them had six wings. They covered their faces with two of their wings, they covered their feet with two of their wings, and they flew using two of their wings.

Who was above the Lord?

The seraphim were above the Lord.

Isaiah 6:3

ULT

³ Each {one} called to another and said, "Holy, holy, holy, {is} Yahweh of hosts! The whole earth {is} full of his glory."

UST

³ They were calling to each other, saying, "Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, is holy; he is completely holy! The entire earth is filled with his glory."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 6:4**ULT**

⁴ The foundations of the thresholds shook at the voices of those who were crying out, and the house was filled with smoke.

UST

⁴ When they spoke, the sound of their cries caused the foundation beneath the doorposts of the temple to shake, and the temple was filled with smoke.

What happened when the seraphim called to each other?

When the seraphim called to each other, the doors and thresholds shook and the house was filled with smoke.

Isaiah 6:5**ULT**

⁵ Then I said, "Woe {is} me! For I am doomed because I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, because my eyes have seen the King, Yahweh, Yahweh of hosts!"

UST

⁵ Then I said, "Terrible things will happen to me, because everything that I say is sinful, and I live among people who constantly say sinful things. I will be destroyed because I have seen Yahweh, commander of the angel armies!"

What did Isaiah say when he saw all these things?

Isaiah said he was doomed because he had unclean lips and lived among people with unclean lips and because he had seen the King, Yahweh.

Isaiah 6:6**ULT**

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me; he had a glowing coal in his hand, that he had taken with the tongs from off the altar.

UST

⁶ Then one of the winged creatures took a hot coal from the altar, using a pair of tongs. He flew to me

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 6:7**ULT**

⁷ He touched my mouth {with it} and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt has been taken away, and your sin atoned for."

UST

⁷ and touched my lips with the coal. Then he said, "Look, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is ended, and your sins are forgiven."

What did the seraphim say when he touched Isaiah's lips with a coal from the altar?

He said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt has been taken away, and your sin atoned for."

Isaiah 6:8**ULT**

⁸ I heard the voice of the Lord say, "Whom shall I send; who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I {am;} send me."

UST

⁸ Then I heard Yahweh asking, "Whom shall I send to be a messenger to my people? Who will go and speak for us?" I replied, "I am here. Send me!"

What did Isaiah hear the Lord ask?

The Lord said, "Whom shall I send; who will go for us?"

How did Isaiah respond to what the Lord asked?

Isaiah said, "Here I am; send me."

Isaiah 6:9**ULT**

⁹ He said, "Go and tell this people, 'Listen, but do not understand; see, but do not perceive.'

UST

⁹ Then he said, "You will go and say to the people of Israel, 'Listen carefully to what I say, but you will not understand it. You will look very carefully, but you will not understand.'

What did the Lord tell Isaiah to tell the people?

The Lord told Isaiah to tell the people to listen but not to understand; to see, but not to perceive.

Isaiah 6:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Make the heart of this people insensitive, and their ears dull, and blind their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and then turn and be healed."

UST

¹⁰ I will cause you people to be unable to care; and I will cause you people to not be able to hear, and I will cause you people to not be able to see. Otherwise you would see with your eyes and you would recognize what it is you are looking at, and you would hear with your ears and be able to understand what you have heard, and you would care deeply and with understanding, and you would turn to me so I might save you and not punish you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 6:11**ULT**

¹¹ Then I said, "Lord, how long?" He answered, "Until cities crash into ruins and are without inhabitants, and the houses are without people, and the land falls into a desolate waste,

UST

¹¹ Then I said, "How long do you want me to continue to do that?" He replied, "Do it until their cities are ruined by their enemies, until no one is living in their houses, do it until all the crops are stolen from their fields and the fields are ruined.

How long was Isaiah supposed to tell the Lord's message to the people? (vv11-12)

Isaiah was to tell the people the Lord's message until the cities were in ruins without inhabitants and the houses were without people and the land fell into a desolate waste, and until Yahweh sent the people far away and the solitude of the land was great.

Isaiah 6:12**ULT**

¹² and until Yahweh has sent the people far away, and the solitude of the land is great.

UST

¹² Do it until Yahweh has exiled everyone far away, and the whole land of Israel is deserted.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 6:13**ULT**

¹³ Even if a tenth of the people remain in it, it {will} again {be} destroyed; as a terebinth or an oak is cut down and whose trunk {remains}, the holy seed {is in} its stump.”

UST

¹³ If even one tenth of the people survive and stay there, their enemies will invade the land again and burn everything. But just like when they cut down an oak tree and leave a stump, and new shoots grow from that, the people who remain in this land will be a group that is set apart for me.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7

Isaiah 7:1

ULT

¹ During the days of Ahaz son of Jotham son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Aram, and Pekah son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up to Jerusalem to war against it, but they could not prevail against it.

UST

¹ Ahaz was the son of Jotham and grandson of Uzziah. During the time that Ahaz was the king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and King Pekah of Israel marched with their armies to attack Jerusalem. But they could not conquer it.

Who was Ahaz?

Ahaz was the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, a king of Judah.

During the days of Ahaz, which kings went up to Jerusalem in Judah to war against it?

Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel went up to war against Jerusalem.

Isaiah 7:2

ULT

² It was reported to the house of David that Aram was allied with Ephraim. His heart trembled, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the forest shake in the wind. ^[1]

UST

² Before they attacked, everyone in the palace in Jerusalem heard news that Aram and Israel were now allies. So King Ahaz and the people over whom he ruled were extremely afraid; they were shaking like trees shake in a windstorm.

How did Ahaz and his people react when they heard that Syria was allied with Ephraim?

The hearts of Ahaz and his people trembled when they heard this.

Isaiah 7:3**ULT**

³ Then Yahweh said to Isaiah, "Go out with your son Shear-Jashub to meet Ahaz at the end of the conduit of the upper pool, on the road to Launderer's Field.

UST

³ Then Yahweh said to me, "Take your son Shear-Jashub, and go to talk with King Ahaz. He is at the end of the aqueduct that brings water into the upper reservoir, near the road to the place where women wash clothes.

What task did Yahweh tell Isaiah to do?

Yahweh told Isaiah to go out with his son and meet Ahaz.

Who did Yahweh say Ahaz shouldn't be afraid of? (vv3-4)

Yahweh's said Ahaz should not be afraid or intimidated by Rezin and Pekah.

Isaiah 7:4**ULT**

⁴ Tell him, 'Be careful, remain calm, do not be afraid or intimidated by these two smoldering firebrands, by the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram, and of Pekah son of Remaliah.

UST

⁴ Tell Ahaz to stop worrying. Tell him that he does not need to be afraid of those two kings, Rezin and Pekah. They are very angry with Judah, but they are unable to harm his country any more than completely burned-out coals could harm him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:5**ULT**

⁵ Aram, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah have planned evil against you; they have said,

UST

⁵ Yes, they are planning against him and saying,

What did Aram, Ephraim and the son of Remaliah plan to do? (vv5-6)

These men planned evil against Ahaz and Judah. They planned to attack and terrify Judah, and set up the son of Tabeel as king.

Isaiah 7:6**ULT**

⁶ "Let us attack Judah and terrify her, and let us break into her and set up our king there, the son of Tabeel."

UST

⁶ 'We will attack Judah and conquer it. Then we will appoint Tabeel's son to be the king of Judah.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:7**ULT**

⁷ The Lord Yahweh says, "It will not take place; it will not happen,

UST

⁷ But this is what Yahweh, the Lord, says: 'It will not happen; They will not conquer Jerusalem!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:8**ULT**

⁸ because the head of Aram {is} Damascus, and the head of Damascus {is} Rezin. Within sixty-five years, Ephraim will be shattered and will no longer be a people.

UST

⁸ The capital of Aram is Damascus, but Damascus is ruled only by its unimportant King Rezin. And as for Israel, within sixty-five years it will be conquered and completely destroyed.

What did Yahweh tell Ahaz about Ephraim?

Yahweh told Ahaz, "Within sixty-five years, Ephraim will be shattered and will no longer be a people."

Isaiah 7:9**ULT**

⁹ The head of Ephraim {is} Samaria, and the head of Samaria {is} Remaliah's son. If you do not remain firm in faith, surely you will not remain secure.''''

UST

⁹ Israel's capital is Samaria, and Samaria is ruled only by its insignificant King Pekah. So you do not need to be afraid of those two countries! But you must trust me, because if you do not trust me firmly, you will be defeated.'''

What does Yahweh tell Ahaz will happen if his faith isn't firm?

Ahaz will not remain secure unless his faith is firm.

Isaiah 7:10**ULT**

¹⁰ The Lord spoke again to Ahaz, ^[2]

UST

¹⁰ Later, Yahweh gave me another message to tell to King Ahaz.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:11**ULT**

¹¹ "Ask a sign of Yahweh your God; ask for it in the depths or in the height above."

UST

¹¹ He said to tell him, "Request me, Yahweh your God, to do something that will enable you to be sure that I will help you. What you request can be in a place that is as high as the sky or as low as the place where the dead people are."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:12**ULT**

¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I test Yahweh."

UST

¹² But when I told that to the king, he refused. He said, "No, I will not ask Yahweh to do something to prove that he will help us."

What was Ahaz's response when the Lord told him to ask for a sign from Yahweh?

Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I test Yahweh."

Isaiah 7:13**ULT**

¹³ So Isaiah replied, "Listen, house of David. {Is it} not enough for you people to test the patience of people? Must you also test the patience of my God?"

UST

¹³ Then I said to him, "You people who are descendants of King David, listen! You are causing me to be tired of being patient. Are you also going to cause my God to stop being patient with you?"

What did Isaiah say Ahaz was doing?

Isaiah said he was not only testing the patience of the people but he was also testing the patience of God.

Isaiah 7:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you people a sign: See, the young woman will conceive, bear a son, and will call his name Immanuel. ^[3]

UST

¹⁴ Yahweh himself will do something for you to prove that he will help you. Listen to this: A young woman will become pregnant and give birth to a son. She will name him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:15**ULT**

¹⁵ He will eat curds and honey when he knows to refuse the evil and choose the good.

UST

¹⁵ By the time that child is old enough to eat curds and honey, he will be able to reject what is evil and choose what is good.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:16**ULT**

¹⁶ For before the child knows to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be desolate.

UST

¹⁶ And before that child is old enough to do that, the lands of the two kings that you are very afraid of will be deserted.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Yahweh will bring on you, on your people, and on your father's house days unlike any since Ephraim seceded from Judah—he will bring on you the king of Assyria."

UST

¹⁷ But then Yahweh will cause you and your family and your entire nation to experience terrible disasters. Those disasters will be worse than any disasters that have occurred since the country of Israel separated from Judah. Yahweh will cause the army of the king of Assyria to attack you!"

Who did Isaiah tell Ahaz that Yahweh would bring against him?

Isaiah told Ahaz that Yahweh would bring the king of Assyria against him and his people.

Isaiah 7:18**ULT**

¹⁸ At that time Yahweh will whistle for a fly from the distant streams of Egypt, and for a bee from the land of Assyria.

UST

¹⁸ At that time, it will be as though Yahweh will whistle to summon the army from the south of Egypt as well as the army of Assyria. They will come and surround your country like flies and bees.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:19**ULT**

¹⁹ They will all come and settle down into all the gorges, into the clefts of the rocks, on all the thornbushes, and onto all the pastures.

UST

¹⁹ They will all come and settle everywhere—in the narrow valleys and caves in the rock cliffs, on land where there are thornbushes as well as on the fertile land.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:20**ULT**

²⁰ At that time the Lord will shave with a razor that was hired beyond the Euphrates River—the king of Assyria—the head and the hair of the legs; it will also sweep away the beard.

UST

²⁰ At that time Yahweh will hire the king of Assyria to come with his army from east of the Euphrates River. They will get rid of everything in your land—the crops and the people. They will destroy everything thoroughly; it will be like a barber shaving not only a man's hair but his beard and the hair on his legs.

What would the king of Assyria do?

The king of Assyria would shave Ahaz's head, legs and beard.

Isaiah 7:21**ULT**

²¹ On that day, a man will keep alive a young cow and two sheep,

UST

²¹ When that happens, a farmer will be able to keep alive only one young cow and two goats.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:22**ULT**

²² and because of the abundance of milk which they shall give, he will eat curds, for everyone left in the land will eat curds and honey.

UST

²² However, those animals will give plenty of milk, with the result that the farmer will have curds to eat. And because there will not be many people left in the land, all the people who remain there will have plenty of milk and honey.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:23**ULT**

²³ At that time, where there were a thousand vines {worth} a thousand silver {shekels}, there will be nothing but briers and thorns.

UST

²³ Now there are many areas where there are vineyards that are worth one thousand pieces of silver, but at that time there will be only briers and thorns in those fields.

What would happen to the land? (vv23-25)

The land would be filled with briers and thorns and it would be a place where sheep and cattle graze.

Isaiah 7:24**ULT**

²⁴ Men will go there to hunt with bows, because all the land will be briers and thorns.

UST

²⁴ There will be only briers and thorns in the entire land, and wild animals, with the result that men will take their bows and arrows and go there to hunt and kill animals.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 7:25**ULT**

²⁵ They will stay away from all the hills that were cultivated with the hoe, for fear of the briers and thorns; but it will be a place where cattle and sheep graze.

7:2 ^[1], some versions have .

7:10 ^[2], some versions have .

7:14 ^[3], some versions have .

UST

²⁵ No one will go to where there previously were gardens on fertile hillsides, because briers and thorns will cover those hillsides. They will be areas where only a few cattle and sheep and goats wander around searching for something to eat.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8

Isaiah 8:1

ULT

¹ Yahweh said to me, "Take a large tablet and write on it, 'Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz.'"

UST

¹ Then Yahweh said to me, "Make a large signboard. And write clearly on it, 'Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz' which means 'quickly plunder and steal everything'."

What did Yahweh tell Isaiah to do?

He told Isaiah to take a large tablet and write on it, 'Maher-shalal-hash-baz'.

Isaiah 8:2

ULT

² I will summon faithful witnesses to attest for me, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah son of Jeberekiah."

UST

² So I requested Uriah the high priest and Jeberekiah's son Zechariah, men who were both honest witnesses, to watch me as I was doing that.

Who were to be Yahweh's faithful witnesses?

Yahweh's witnesses were to be Uriah the priest and Zechariah the son of Jeberekiah.

Isaiah 8:3

ULT

³ I went to the prophetess, and she conceived and bore a son. Then Yahweh said to me, "Call his name Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz.

UST

³ Then I slept with my wife, who was a prophetess, and she became pregnant and then gave birth to a son. Then Yahweh said to me, "Give him the name Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz,

Why did Yahweh tell Isaiah to name his son 'Maher-shalal-hash-baz'? (vv3-4)

He was to be named 'Maher-shalal-hash-baz' because before he knew how to cry 'My father' and 'My mother,' the king of Assyria would come and carry away the riches of Damascus and the plunder of Samaria.

Isaiah 8:4**ULT**

⁴ For before the child knows to cry, 'My father,' and, 'My mother,' the riches of Damascus and the plunder of Samaria will be carried away by the king of Assyria."

UST

⁴ because before he is old enough to say 'papa' or 'mama', the king of Assyria will come with his army and take away all the valuable things in Damascus and in Samaria."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:5**ULT**

⁵ Yahweh spoke to me again,

UST

⁵ Yahweh spoke to me again and said, "Tell the people of Judah:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:6**ULT**

⁶ "Because this people has refused the gentle waters of Shiloah, and is happy over Rezin and Remaliah's son,

UST

⁶ I have taken good care of you people, but you have rejected that, thinking that my help was very small, like the small canal through which water flows from the spring of Gihon into Jerusalem. Instead, you have been happy to request help from King Rezin and King Pekah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:7**ULT**

⁷ therefore the Lord is about to bring up on them the waters of the River, mighty and many, the king of Assyria and all his glory. It will come up over all its channels and overflow its banks.

UST

⁷ Therefore, I, the Lord, will soon cause the powerful army of the king of Assyria, which will be like a great flood from the Euphrates River, to attack the people of Judah. Their soldiers will be everywhere in your country, like a river that overflows all its banks.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:8**ULT**

⁸ The River will sweep onward into Judah, flooding and passing on, until it reaches to your neck. Its outstretched wings will fill the breadth of your land, Immanuel."

UST

⁸ Those soldiers will go all over Judah, like a river whose water rises as high as a person's neck. Their army will spread over the land quickly, like an eagle, and they will cover your entire land! But I, your God, will be with you!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:9**ULT**

⁹ You peoples will be broken to pieces. Listen, all you distant countries: arm yourselves for war and be broken in pieces; arm yourselves and be broken in pieces.

UST

⁹ Listen, all you people in distant countries! You can prepare to attack Judah. You can prepare for battle, and shout your war cries, but your armies will be crushed!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Form a plan, but it will not be carried out; issue the command, but it will not be carried out, for God {is} with us.

UST

¹⁰ You can prepare for what you will do to attack Judah, but what you plan to do will be useless! You will not succeed, because God is with us!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:11**ULT**

¹¹ Yahweh spoke to me, with his strong hand upon me, and warned me not to walk in the way of this people.

UST

¹¹ Yahweh strongly warned me not to act like the other people in Judah did. He said to me,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:12**ULT**

¹² Do not call conspiracy anything that this people calls conspiracy, you will not fear what they fear, and do not be terrified.

UST

¹² "Do not say that everything that people do is conspiring against the government, like other people say, and do not be afraid of the things that other people are afraid of.

In what specific ways of the people was Isaiah warned not to walk?

Isaiah was warned not to call conspiracy anything that people called conspiracy and not to fear what they feared or be in awe of those things.

Isaiah 8:13**ULT**

¹³ It is Yahweh of hosts whom you will honor as holy; he is the one you must fear, and he is the one you must dread.

UST

¹³ I, Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, am the one you should consider to be holy. I am the one you should fear, the one you must give an account to.

Who was Isaiah told to treat as holy and to fear?

Isaiah was told to fear and be in awe of Yahweh of Hosts and to treat him as holy.

Isaiah 8:14**ULT**

¹⁴ He will become a sanctuary; but he will be a stone of striking, and a rock of stumbling— for both the houses of Israel, and he will be a trap and a snare to the people of Jerusalem.

UST

¹⁴ Yahweh will protect you. But as for the other people in Israel and Judah, Yahweh will be like a stone that causes people to stumble, like a rock that causes them to fall down. And as for the people of Jerusalem, he will be like a trap or a snare.

What was Yahweh going to be to both houses of Israel and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem?

He was going to be a stone that makes people trip and a rock that makes people stumble to Israel, and a trap and snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Isaiah 8:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Many will stumble over it and fall and be broken, and be ensnared and captured.

UST

¹⁵ Many people will stumble and fall down and never get up again. They will experience great troubles; they will be captured by their enemies."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Bind up my testimony, seal the official record, and give it to my disciples.

UST

¹⁶ So I say to you who are my disciples, seal up this scroll on which I have written the messages that God has given to me, and give his instructions to others who have accompanied me.

What was Isaiah's testimony that was to be given to his disciples? (vv16-18)

Isaiah's testimony was that he would wait for Yahweh and that Isaiah and his sons were given by Yahweh for signs and wonders in Israel.

Isaiah 8:17**ULT**

¹⁷ I will wait for Yahweh, who hides his face from the house of Jacob; I will trust in him.

UST

¹⁷ I will wait to see what Yahweh will do. He has rejected the descendants of Jacob, but I will confidently expect him to help me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:18**ULT**

¹⁸ See, I and the sons whom Yahweh has given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from Yahweh of hosts, who lives on Mount Zion.

UST

¹⁸ I and the children that Yahweh has given to me are like signs to warn the people of Israel; we are warnings from Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, the one who lives in his temple on Mount Zion in Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 8:19**ULT**

¹⁹ They will say to you, "Consult with those who speak with the dead and with spirits," the ones who chirp and mutter incantations. But should a people not consult their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living?

UST

¹⁹ Some people may urge you to consult those who talk with the spirits of dead people or with those who say that they receive messages from those spirits. They whisper and mutter about what we should do in the future. But God is the one whom we should ask to guide us! It is ridiculous for people who are alive to request spirits of dead people to tell us what we should do!

According to Isaiah what were the people of Israel going to tell Isaiah's disciples?

They were going to tell Isaiah's disciples to consult with the mediums and magicians.

Who does Isaiah say the people should consult?

The people should consult their God.

Isaiah 8:20**ULT**

²⁰ To the law and to the testimony! If they do not say such things, it is because they have no light of dawn.

UST

²⁰ Pay attention to God's instructions and teaching! If people do not say things that agree with what God teaches us, what they say is worthless. It is as though those people are in darkness.

To what does Isaiah command his disciples to pay attention?

They are commanded to pay attention to the law and the testimony.

Isaiah 8:21**ULT**

²¹ They will pass through the land greatly distressed and hungry. When they are hungry, they will become angry and curse their king and their God, as they turn their faces upward.

UST

²¹ They will wander through the land, worried and hungry. And when they become very hungry, they will become very angry. They will look up toward heaven and curse God and will also curse their king.

What will the people of Israel do when they are greatly distressed and hungry and become angry?

They will turn their faces upward and curse their king and their God.

Isaiah 8:22**ULT**

²² They will look at the earth and see distress, darkness, and oppressive gloom. {They will be} driven into a land of darkness.

UST

²² They will look around the land and see only trouble and darkness and things that cause them to despair. And then they will be thrown into very black darkness.

What will happen to the people of Israel?

They will be driven into a land of darkness.

Isaiah 9

Isaiah 9:1

ULT

¹ The gloom {will be} dispelled from her who {was} in anguish. In an earlier time he humiliated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the later time he will make it glorious, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

UST

¹ However, those in Judah who were distressed will not continue to suffer. Previously, Yahweh humbled the people in the land where the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali live. But in the future he will honor the people who live in the region of Galilee, along the road between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea, where many foreigners live.

What will happen to the one who was in anguish?

Her gloom will be dispelled.

What lands did God humiliate in earlier times?

God humiliated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali.

What will God do to Zebulun and Naphtali in the later time?

He will make them glorious.

Isaiah 9:2

ULT

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who have lived in the land of the shadow of death, the light has shone on them. ^[1]

UST

² Some day in the future, it will be as though the people who walked in darkness have seen a bright light. Yes, a bright light will shine on those who live in a land where they now have great troubles.

On whom has the light shone?

The light has shone on those who have lived in the land of the shadow of death.

Isaiah 9:3**ULT**

³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased their joy. They rejoice before you like the joy at harvest time, as {men} rejoice when they divide the plunder.

UST

³ Yahweh, you will cause us people in Israel to rejoice; we will become very happy. We will rejoice about what you have done like people rejoice when they harvest their crops, or like soldiers rejoice when they divide up among themselves the things that they have captured in battle.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 9:4**ULT**

⁴ For the yoke of his burden, the beam across his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have shattered as on the day of Midian.

UST

⁴ You will cause us to no longer be slaves of those who captured us; you will lift the heavy burdens from our shoulders. It will be as though you have broken the weapons of those who oppressed us, like you did when you destroyed the army of the Midian people group.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 9:5**ULT**

⁵ For every boot treading in the tumult and the garments rolled in blood will be burned, fuel for the fire.

UST

⁵ The boots that the enemy soldiers wore and their clothing which has stains of blood on them will all be burned up; they will be fuel for a big fire.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 9:6**ULT**

⁶ For to us a child has been born, to us a son has been given; and the rule will be on his shoulder; and his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

UST

⁶ Another reason that we will rejoice is that a special child will be born for us, a woman will give birth to a son, and he will be our ruler. And his names will be 'Wonderful Counselor,' 'Mighty God,' 'Our Everlasting Father,' and 'King who causes us to have Peace.'

What is the name of the one who will bear the rule on his shoulder?

His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:7**ULT**

⁷ Of the increase of {his} government and of peace {there will be} no end, as he rules on the throne of David, and over his kingdom, to establish it and sustain it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and for evermore. The zeal of Yahweh of hosts will do this.

UST

⁷ His rule and the peace that he brings will never end. He will rule fairly and justly, like his ancestor King David did. This will happen because Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, greatly desires that it happen.

How will he rule?

He will rule with justice and with righteousness.

How long will he rule?

He will rule from this time onward and for evermore.

Isaiah 9:8**ULT**

⁸ The Lord sent a word against Jacob, and it fell on Israel.

UST

⁸ The Lord has warned the descendants of Jacob; he has said that he will punish Israel.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 9:9**ULT**

⁹ All the people will know, even Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria, who say in pride and with an arrogant heart,

UST

⁹⁻¹⁰ And all the people in Samaria and other places in Israel will know that, but they are now very proud and arrogant. They said, "Our city has been destroyed, but we will take away the broken bricks from the ruins and replace them with carefully cut stones. Our sycamore fig trees have been cut down by our enemies, but we will plant cedar trees in their place."

What did Israel say in pride and with an arrogant heart? (vv9-10)

Israel says, "The bricks have fallen, but we will rebuild with chiseled stone; the sycamores have been cut down, but we will put cedars in their place."

Isaiah 9:10**ULT**

¹⁰ "The bricks have fallen, but we will rebuild with chiseled stone; the sycamores have been cut down, but we will put cedars in their place."

UST

⁹⁻¹⁰ And all the people in Samaria and other places in Israel will know that, but they are now very proud and arrogant. They said, "Our city has been destroyed, but we will take away the broken bricks from the ruins and replace them with carefully cut stones. Our sycamore fig trees have been cut down by our enemies, but we will plant cedar trees in their place."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 9:11**ULT**

¹¹ Therefore Yahweh will raise up against him Rezin, his adversary, and will stir up his enemies,

UST

¹¹ But Yahweh will bring the armies of Assyria, the enemies of King Rezin of Aram, to fight against Israel and incite other nations to attack Israel.

Who did Yahweh raise up against Israel? (vv11-12)

Yahweh raised up Rezin, the Arameans and the Philistines against Israel.

Isaiah 9:12**ULT**

¹² the Arameans on the east, and the Philistines on the west. They will devour Israel with open mouth. In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand {is} still stretched out.

UST

¹² The army of Aram will come from the east, and the army of Philistia will come from the west, and they will destroy Israel like a wild animal tears another animal apart and devours it. But even after that happened, Yahweh will still be very angry with them. He will be ready to strike them with his fist again.

After all this did Yahweh's anger subside?

No, Yahweh's anger didn't subside. His hand was still stretched out to strike Israel.

Isaiah 9:13**ULT**

¹³ Yet the people will not turn to him who struck them, nor will they seek Yahweh of hosts.

UST

¹³ But even though Yahweh will punish his people like that, they still will not return to him and worship him. They still will not request Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, to assist them.

Did the people turn to Yahweh?

The people did not turn to Yahweh or seek him.

Isaiah 9:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Therefore Yahweh will cut off from Israel head and tail, palm branch and reed, in one day.

UST

¹⁴ Therefore, in one day Yahweh will get rid of those who are like Israel's head and those who are like its tail; the ones who are like the top of the palm tree and the ones who are like the bottom.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 9:15**ULT**

¹⁵ The leader and the noble man {are} the head; and the prophet that teaches lies {is} the tail.

UST

¹⁵ The leaders of Israel are the head, and the prophets who tell lies are the tail.

Who were the “head” and “tail” that Yahweh was going to cut off in one day?

The leader and the noble man were the head; and the prophet that teaches lies was the tail.

Isaiah 9:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Those who lead this people lead {them} astray, and {those who are} led by them are swallowed up.

UST

¹⁶ The leaders of the people have misled them; they have caused the people that they are ruling to be confused.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 9:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Therefore the Lord will not rejoice over their young men nor will he have compassion on their fatherless and widows, since every one is godless and an evildoer, and every mouth speaks foolish things. In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand is still stretched out.

UST

¹⁷ For that reason, Yahweh is not pleased with the young men of Israel, and he does not even act mercifully toward the widows and orphans, because they are all ungodly and wicked, and they all say things that are foolish. But Yahweh still is angry with them; he is ready to strike them with his fist again.

Why didn't the Lord have compassion on their fatherless and widows?

He didn't have compassion on them because everyone was a godless evildoer and every mouth spoke foolish things.

After all this did Yahweh's anger subside?

No, Yahweh's anger didn't subside. His hand was still stretched out to strike Israel.

Isaiah 9:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Wickedness burns like a fire; it devours the briars and thorns; it even burns the thickets of the forest, which rise in a column of smoke.

UST

¹⁸ When people do wicked things, it is like a brush fire that spreads rapidly. It burns up not only briars and thorns; it starts a big fire in the forests from which clouds of smoke will rise.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 9:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Through the fury of Yahweh of hosts the land is scorched, and the people are like fuel for the fire. No man spares his brother.

UST

¹⁹ It is as though the whole land is burned black because Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, is extremely angry with the Israelite people. They will become like fuel for that great fire, and no one will try to rescue even his own brother from that fire.

What happened as a result of Yahweh's overflowing anger?

Yahweh caused the land to be scorched and the people to become like fuel for the fire.

Isaiah 9:20**ULT**

²⁰ They will grab food on the right hand but still be hungry; they will eat food on the left hand but will not be satisfied. Each will even eat the flesh of his own arm. ^[2]

UST

²⁰ The Israelite people will attack their neighbors who live in houses at the right of them to get food, but they will still be hungry. They will kill and eat the flesh of those who live in houses at the left, but their stomachs will still not be full.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 9:21**ULT**

²¹ Manasseh {will devour} Ephraim, and Ephraim, Manasseh; and they together {will} attack Judah. In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand {is} still stretched out.

9:2 ^[1], some versions have .

9:20 ^[2], some versions have .

UST

²¹ Israelites of the tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim will attack each other, and then they will both attack the people of Judah. But even after that happens, Yahweh will still be very angry with them; He will be ready to strike them with his fist again.

What happened to Manasseh, Ephraim and Judah?

Manasseh and Ephraim devoured each other and they both attacked Judah.

After all this did Yahweh's anger subside?

No, Yahweh's anger didn't subside. His hand was still stretched out to strike Israel.

Isaiah 10**Isaiah 10:1****ULT**

¹ Woe to those who enact unjust laws and write unfair decrees.

UST

¹ Terrible things will happen to you judges who are unjust and who make unfair laws.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:2**ULT**

² They deprive the needy of justice, rob the poor of my people of their rights, plunder widows, and make the fatherless their prey!

UST

² You refuse to help poor people, and you do not allow them to get the things that they should get. You allow people to steal things from widows and do unfair things to children without fathers.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:3**ULT**

³ What will you do on judgment day when the destruction comes from far away? To whom will you flee for help, and where will you leave your wealth?

UST

³ When I punish you by sending people from distant lands to cause you disasters, to whom will you run to get help? Your valuable possessions will certainly not be safe anywhere.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:4**ULT**

⁴ Nothing remains, and you crouch among the prisoners or fall among the killed. In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand {is} still stretched out.

UST

⁴ You will be able only to stumble along as your enemies take you away with other prisoners, or else your corpses will lie on the ground with others who have been killed. But even after that happens, Yahweh will still be very angry with you. He will still be ready to strike you again with his fist.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:5**ULT**

⁵ Woe to the Assyrian, the club of my anger, the rod by whom I wield my fury!

UST

⁵ Yahweh says, "Terrible things will happen to Assyria. It is true that their army is like a rod or a club with which I punish other nations because I am very angry with those nations.

Who was the club of Yahweh's anger and the rod by whom Yahweh wielded his fury?

The Assyrian was the club of Yahweh's anger and the rod by whom he wielded his fury.

Isaiah 10:6**ULT**

⁶ I send him against an arrogant nation and against the people who bear my overflowing wrath. I order him to take the spoil, to take the prey, and to trample them like mud in the streets.

UST

⁶ Sometimes I send the Assyrians to attack a godless nation, to fight against other people who have caused me to be angry. I send them to capture people and to seize and take away their possessions, and to trample them like people walk on mud in the streets.

What did Yahweh order the Assyrian to do?

He ordered the Assyrian to take the spoil, take the prey and to trample Israel like mud in the streets.

Isaiah 10:7**ULT**

⁷ But this is not what he intends, nor does he think this way. {It is} in his heart to destroy and eliminate many nations.

UST

⁷ But the king of Assyria does not understand; he does not realize that he is only like a weapon in my hand. He only wants to destroy people, to get rid of many nations.

What did the Assyrian intend?

It was in the Assyrian's heart to destroy and eliminate many nations.

Isaiah 10:8**ULT**

⁸ For he says, "{Are} not all my princes kings?"

UST

⁸ He says, 'All of my army commanders will soon be kings of these nations that I conquer!'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:9**ULT**

⁹ {Is} not Kalno like Carchemish? {Is} not Hamath like Arpad? {Is} not Samaria like Damascus?

UST

⁹ We destroyed the city of Kalno as we destroyed the city of Carchemish. We destroyed the city of Hamath as we destroyed the city of Arpad; we destroyed Samaria just like we destroyed Damascus.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:10**ULT**

¹⁰ As my hand has overcome idolatrous kingdoms, whose carved figures were greater than those of Jerusalem and Samaria,

UST

¹⁰ We were able to destroy all those kingdoms that were full of the images of their gods, kingdoms whose gods were stronger than the gods in Jerusalem and Samaria.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:11**ULT**

¹¹ just as I did to Samaria and her worthless idols, will I not also do the same to Jerusalem and to her idols?"

UST

¹¹ So we will defeat Jerusalem and destroy the images of gods that are there, just as we destroyed Samaria and the images that were there!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:12**ULT**

¹² When the Lord has finished his work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the speech of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria and his prideful looks.

UST

¹² But I am the Lord, and after I have used Assyria to finish what I want to do to punish the people in Jerusalem, I will punish the king of Assyria because he has been very proud and arrogant.

What did the Lord say he would do when he finished his work on Mt. Zion and in Jerusalem?

The Lord said he would punish the speech of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria and his prideful looks.

Isaiah 10:13**ULT**

¹³ For he says, "By my strength and by my wisdom I acted. I have understanding, and I have removed the boundaries of the peoples. I have stolen their treasures, and like a bull I have brought down the inhabitants.

UST

¹³ He says, 'By my own great power I have done these things. I have been able to do them because I am very wise and very intelligent. My army removed the barriers at the borders of nations and carried away all their valuable things. My mighty army has humiliated all their people.

Why did the king of Assyria think he was successful?

The king of Assyria thought he was successful because of his strength, wisdom, and understanding.

Isaiah 10:14**ULT**

¹⁴ My hand has seized, as from a nest, the wealth of nations, and as one gathers abandoned eggs, I gathered all the earth. None fluttered their wings or opened their mouth or chirped."

UST

¹⁴ Like someone who reaches into a bird's nest to take away the eggs, we have taken away the treasures of other countries. The people were not like birds that would have flapped their wings or chirp loudly to protest about their eggs being stolen; the people did not object at all to their treasures being stolen.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Will the ax boast about itself against the one who wields it? Will the saw praise itself more than the one who cuts with it? It is as if a rod could lift up those who raise it, {or} as if a wooden club could lift up a person.

UST

¹⁵ But I am Yahweh, and I say that an ax certainly cannot boast about being stronger than the person who uses it, and a saw is not greater than the person who uses it. A rod cannot control the one who holds it, and a wooden club cannot lift up a person. So the king of Assyria should not boast that he has done these things with his own wisdom and strength.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Therefore the Lord Yahweh of hosts will send emaciation among his elite warriors; and under his glory there will be kindled a burning like fire.

UST

¹⁶ I am the Lord Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, who will send a plague among the best soldiers of Assyria; it will be like a fire that will kill them and get rid of their glory.

What was the Lord God going to do among Assyria's elite warriors?

The Lord God was going to send emaciation among them.

Isaiah 10:17**ULT**

¹⁷ The light of Israel will become a fire, and his Holy One a flame; it will burn and devour his thorns and briers in one day.

UST

¹⁷ Yahweh is like a light for the people of Israel, like a fire; the Holy One who rules Israel is like a flame. The soldiers of Assyria are like thorns and briers, and Yahweh will burn them up in one day.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Yahweh will consume the glory of his forest and of his fruitful land, both soul and body; it will be like when a sick man's life wastes away.

UST

¹⁸ There are glorious forests and fertile farmlands in Assyria, but Yahweh will completely destroy them; they will be like a very sick person who shrivels up and then dies.

What did Yahweh say he would consume in Assyria?

Yahweh said he would consumed the glory of his forest and of his fruitful land.

Isaiah 10:19**ULT**

¹⁹ The remnant of the trees of his forest will be so {few}, that a child could count them.

UST

¹⁹ There will be very few trees left in those forests; even a child will be able to count them."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:20**ULT**

²⁰ On that day, the remnant of Israel, the family of Jacob that has escaped, will no longer rely on the one who defeated them, but will indeed depend on Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel.

UST

²⁰ In the future there will be only a few people left in Israel; not many descendants of Jacob will still be alive. But they will no longer rely on the king of Assyria, the king of the nation that tried to destroy them. Instead, they will faithfully trust in Yahweh, the Holy One who rules Israel.

What would the remnant of Israel rely upon after they escape?

The remnant that escaped would no longer rely on him who struck them, but would indeed depend on Yahweh.

Isaiah 10:21**ULT**

²¹ A remnant of Jacob will return to the mighty God.

UST

²¹ Those Israelites will return to their mighty God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:22**ULT**

²² For though your people, Israel, are like the sand of the seashore, only a remnant of them will return. Destruction is decreed, as overflowing righteousness demands.

UST

²² Now, the people of Israel are as numerous as the grains of sand on the seashore, but only a few of them will return from the countries to which they will be exiled. Yahweh has decided to destroy most of the Israelites, and that is what he must do because he is completely just.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:23**ULT**

²³ For the Lord Yahweh of hosts, is about to carry out the destruction determined throughout the land.

UST

²³ Yes, the Lord Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, has already decided to destroy the entire land of Israel.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:24**ULT**

²⁴ Therefore the Lord Yahweh of hosts says, "My people who live in Zion, do not fear the Assyrian. He will strike you with the rod and raise his staff against you, as the Egyptians did.

UST

²⁴ This is what the Lord Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, says: "My people in Jerusalem, do not be afraid of the army of Assyria when they beat you with rods and clubs, like the men of Egypt did to your ancestors long ago.

Why did the Lord God tell the people who lived in Zion not to fear the Assyrian? (vv24-25)

He told them not to fear the Assyrian because in a very short time the Lord's anger against those in Zion would end and the Lord's anger would be toward Assyria's destruction.

Isaiah 10:25**ULT**

²⁵ Do not fear him, for in a very short time my anger against you will end, and my anger will lead to his destruction."

UST

²⁵ Soon I will no longer be angry with you, and then I will be angry with the people of Assyria and destroy them!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:26**ULT**

²⁶ Then Yahweh of hosts will wield a whip against them, as when he defeated Midian at the rock of Oreb. He will raise his rod over the sea and lift it up as he did in Egypt.

UST

²⁶ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, will strike them with his whip. He will do to them as he did when he defeated the army of the Midian people group, and as he did when he caused the army of Egypt to drown in the Sea of Reeds.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:27**ULT**

²⁷ On that day, his burden is lifted from your shoulder and his yoke from off your neck, and the yoke will be destroyed because of fatness. ^[1]

UST

²⁷ One day in the future, Yahweh will cause the army of Assyria to stop oppressing you, his people; he will end your suffering and your being slaves of the people of Assyria; you will become too strong for them.

What was to happen on the day when Yahweh would wield his whip against Assyria and on the day Yahweh would raise his rod over the sea to lift it up?

On that day the burden would be lifted from their shoulder and the yoke from off their neck.

Isaiah 10:28**ULT**

²⁸ The enemy has come to Aiath and has passed through Migron; at Michmash he has stored his provisions.

UST

²⁸ One day in the future this will be the situation: The army of Assyria has entered northern Judah near Aiath; they have gone through Migron and stored their supplies at Micmash, north of Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:29**ULT**

²⁹ They have crossed over the pass and they lodge at Geba. Ramah trembles and Gibeah of Saul has fled.

UST

²⁹ They have crossed through a mountain pass and set up their tents at Geba. People in Ramah will tremble because they are afraid. The people of Gibeah, where King Saul was born, have all run away.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:30**ULT**

³⁰ Cry aloud, daughter of Gallim! Give attention, Laishah! You poor Anathoth!

UST

³⁰ You people of Gallim will cry out for help! They will shout to the people of the city of Laish near Jerusalem to warn them! The people of Anathoth will suffer a lot.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:31**ULT**

³¹ Madmenah is fleeing, and the inhabitants of Gebim run for safety.

UST

³¹ The people of Madmenah north of Jerusalem are all running away, and the people of Gebim close to Jerusalem are trying to hide.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:32**ULT**

³² This very day he will halt at Nob and shake his fist at the mountain of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.

UST

³² The soldiers of Assyria will stop at the city of Nob outside Jerusalem. They will shake their fists as they threaten the people on Mount Zion in Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:33**ULT**

³³ Behold, the Lord Yahweh of hosts will lop off the boughs with a terrifying crash; the tallest trees {will be} cut down, and the lofty will be brought low.

UST

³³ But listen to this! Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, with his great power will destroy the mighty army of Assyria. It is as though they are a huge tree that he will cut down.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 10:34**ULT**

³⁴ He will chop down the thickets of the forest with an ax, and Lebanon in his majesty will fall. 10:27 ^[1]. Other modern versions have . Here means the Assyrian king and his army.

UST

³⁴ He will destroy the soldiers of Assyria as men use big axes to cut down the tall trees in the forests of Lebanon.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 11

Isaiah 11:1

ULT

¹ A shoot will sprout from the stump of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots will bear fruit.

UST

¹ Like a new branch often grows from the stump of a tree, there will be a descendant of King David who will be a new king.

What was going to come from the root of Jesse?

A shoot and a branch was to come from the root of Jesse.

Isaiah 11:2

ULT

² The Spirit of Yahweh will rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of instruction and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Yahweh.

UST

² The Spirit of Yahweh will always be with him. The Spirit will enable him to be wise and to understand many things; The Spirit will enable him to decide what is good to do and will give him great power. The Spirit will enable him to know Yahweh and to revere him.

What was going to rest on him?

The Spirit of Yahweh was to rest on him.

What will the Spirit of Yahweh give him?

The Spirit of Yahweh will give him wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge, and the fear of Yahweh.

Isaiah 11:3

ULT

³ His delight will be the fear of the Lord; he will not judge by what his eyes see, nor decide by what his ears hear.

UST

³ He will be glad to obey Yahweh. He will not decide whether someone is righteous or not only by seeing what that person looks like, or by listening to what others say about that person.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 11:4**ULT**

⁴ Instead, he will judge the poor with righteousness and decide fairly for the humble of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

UST

⁴ He will judge the cases of needy people fairly; and he will act justly toward poor people. He will punish evil people as a result of what he decides; he will get rid of wicked people because of the evil things they have done.

What standard will he use to judge the poor and humble?

He will not judge by what his eyes see or his ears hear. He will judge with righteousness and decide fairly.

What will he do to the wicked?

He will slay them with the breath of his lips.

Isaiah 11:5**ULT**

⁵ Righteousness will be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his hips.

UST

⁵ He will always act righteously; the good things he does will be like a belt around his waist. He will always speak what is true; the true words he speaks will be like a sash around his waist.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 11:6**ULT**

⁶ The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, the calf, the young lion and the fattened calf, together. A little child will lead them.

UST

⁶ When he becomes king, wolves and lambs will live together peacefully; leopards, instead of killing baby goats, will lie down with them. Similarly, fat, healthy calves and lions will eat food together; and a young child will take care of them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 11:7**ULT**

⁷ The cow and the bear will graze together, and their young will lie down together. The lion will eat straw like the ox.

UST

⁷ Cows and bears will eat together; bear cubs and calves will lie down together. Lions will not eat other animals; instead, they will eat hay like cows do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 11:8**ULT**

⁸ A baby will play over the hole of the snake, and the weaned child will put his hand on the serpent's den.

UST

⁸ Babies will play safely near the holes where cobra snakes live; small children will even put their hands into nests of poisonous snakes, and the snakes will not harm them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 11:9**ULT**

⁹ They will not hurt nor destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of knowledge of Yahweh, as the waters cover the sea.

UST

⁹ No creatures will harm or kill other creatures on Mount Zion, my holy hill; and the earth will be filled with people who know me, as the seas are full of water.

How will the animals act differently?

They will not hurt nor destroy on all his holy mountain.

Why will the animals not hurt or destroy?

The animals will not hurt nor destroy because the earth will be full of the knowledge of Yahweh.

Isaiah 11:10**ULT**

¹⁰ On that day, the root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples. The nations will seek him out, and his resting place will be glorious.

UST

¹⁰ At that time, a descendant of King David will hold up a flag to signal to the people of all people groups that they should gather around him; they will come to him to get his advice, and the place where he lives will be glorious.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 11:11**ULT**

¹¹ On that day, the Lord will again extend his hand to recover the remnant of his people who remain in Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and the islands of the sea.

UST

¹¹ At that time, Yahweh will reach out his hand as he did long ago; he will enable those who had been exiled from Israel to return home, from Assyria, from northern Egypt, from southern Egypt, from Ethiopia, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath, and from all the distant countries near the sea.

On that day why will the Lord extend his hand?

He will extend his hand to recover the remnant of his people who remain in Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and the islands of the sea.

Isaiah 11:12**ULT**

¹² He will set up a banner for the nations and will gather the outcasts of Israel and the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

UST

¹² Yahweh will raise his flag among all the people groups, and he will gather together the people of Israel who were exiled long ago. He will gather from very distant places on the earth the people of Judah whom he had scattered to those places.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 11:13**ULT**

¹³ He will turn aside the envy of Ephraim, and hostilities of Judah will be cut off. Ephraim will not envy Judah, and Judah will no longer be hostile to Ephraim.

UST

¹³ Then, the people of Israel and the people of Judah will not be jealous of each other any longer, and they will no longer be enemies of each other.

What will happen to those who are hostile to Judah?

Those who are hostile to Judah will be cut off.

What will happen between Ephraim and Judah?

Ephraim will not envy Judah, and Judah will no longer be hostile to Ephraim.

Isaiah 11:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Instead they will swoop down on the Philistine hills on the west, and together they will plunder the people of the east. They will attack Edom and Moab, and the people of Ammon will obey them.

UST

¹⁴ Their armies will join together to attack the people of Philistia to the west. And together they will attack nations to the east; they will defeat those nations and take away all their valuable possessions. They will capture the areas of Edom and Moab, and they will rule the people of the Ammon people group.

What will Ephraim and Judah do together?

They will swoop down on the Philistine hills on the west and plunder the people of the east. They will also attack Edom and Moab..

Isaiah 11:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Yahweh will completely destroy the gulf of the Sea of Egypt. With his scorching wind he will wave his hand over the Euphrates River and will divide it into seven streams, so it can be crossed over in sandals.

UST

¹⁵ Yahweh will make a dry road through the sea near Egypt. It will be as though he will wave his hand over the Euphrates River and send a strong wind to cause it to divide into seven streams, with the result that people will be able to walk across those streams.

What will Yahweh do to the gulf of the sea of Egypt and the Euphrates River?

Yahweh will divide the gulf of the sea of Egypt and will divide the Euphrates river into seven streams.

Why will Yahweh divide the gulf of the sea of Egypt and divide the Euphrates river?

He will divide them so it can be crossed over in Sandals.

Isaiah 11:16**ULT**

¹⁶ There will be a highway for the remnant of his people that return from Assyria, as there was for Israel in their coming up from the land of Egypt.

UST

¹⁶ Because he will make a highway for his people who are living in Assyria, they will be able to return to their own land, just like long ago he made a path for the people of Israel so that they could go through the water when they left Egypt.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 12

Isaiah 12:1

ULT

¹ On that day you will say, "I will give thanks to you, Yahweh. For though you were angry with me, your wrath has turned away, and you have comforted me.

UST

¹ At that time, you people of Jerusalem will sing this song: "Yahweh, we praise you! Previously, you were angry with us, but you are not angry now and you have comforted us.

On that day, why will they give thanks to Yahweh?

They will give thanks because although Yahweh was angry with them, he turned his wrath away from them and he comforted them.

On that day what will people say Yahweh is to them? (vv1-2)

The people will say Yahweh is their strength, their song, and their salvation.

Isaiah 12:2

ULT

² See, God {is} my salvation; I will trust and will not fear, for Yahweh, yes, Yahweh {is} my strength and song. He has become my salvation."

UST

² Amazingly, you have come to save us, so we will trust in you and not be afraid. Yahweh our God, you enable us to be strong; you are the one about whom we sing; you have rescued us from our enemies."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 12:3

ULT

³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

UST

³ You, his people, will greatly rejoice because he has rescued you, like you enjoy drinking water from a fountain.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 12:4**ULT**

⁴ On that day you will say, "Give thanks to Yahweh and call upon his name; declare his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.

UST

⁴ At that time you will say, "We should thank Yahweh! We should praise him! We should tell the people of all the people groups what he has done; we should enable them to know that he is very great!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 12:5**ULT**

⁵ Sing to Yahweh, for he has done glorious things; let this be known throughout the earth.

UST

⁵ We should sing to Yahweh, because he has done wonderful things. We should enable everyone in the world to know it!

Why will people be told to sing to Yahweh?

They will be told to sing to Yahweh for he has done glorious things and so that it will be known throughout the earth.

Isaiah 12:6**ULT**

⁶ Cry aloud and shout for joy, you inhabitants of Zion, for great in your midst {is} the Holy One of Israel."

UST

⁶ You people of Jerusalem, shout joyfully to praise Yahweh, because he is the great Holy One whom we Israelite people worship, and he lives among us!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13

Isaiah 13:1

ULT

¹ A declaration about Babylon, that Isaiah son of Amoz received:

UST

¹ I, Isaiah son of Amoz, received from Yahweh this message about the city of Babylon:

What message did Isaiah receive from Yahweh?

He received a declaration about Babylon.

Isaiah 13:2

ULT

² On the bare mountain set up a signal flag, cry aloud to them, wave your hand for them to go into the gates of the nobles.

UST

² Lift up a flag on the bare top of a hill, to signal that an army should come to attack Babylon. Shout to them and wave your hand to signal to them that they should march through the city gates into the palaces of the proud rulers of Babylon!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:3

ULT

³ I have commanded my holy ones, yes, I have called my mighty men to execute my anger, even my proudly exulting ones.

UST

³ Yahweh says, "I have commanded those who are set apart to do this work for me— I have summoned the warriors whom I have chosen to punish the people of Babylon because I am very angry with them, and those soldiers will be very proud when they do that."

What has Yahweh called his mighty men to do?

He has called them to execute his anger.

Isaiah 13:4**ULT**

⁴ The noise of a multitude in the mountains, as of many people! The noise of a tumult of the kingdoms like many nations gathered together! Yahweh of hosts is mustering the army for the battle.

UST

⁴ Listen to the noise on the mountains, which is the noise of a huge army marching! It is the noise made by people of many people groups shouting. Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, has summoned this army to gather together.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:5**ULT**

⁵ They come from a far country, from way over the horizon. It is Yahweh with his instruments of judgment, to destroy the whole land.

UST

⁵ They come from countries that are far away, from the most remote places on the earth. They are like weapons that Yahweh will use to punish the people with whom he is very angry, and to destroy the entire country of Babylonia.

From where does Yahweh's army come?

They come from a far country, from way over the horizon.

What are Yahweh's instruments of judgement going to do?

They are going to destroy the whole land.

Isaiah 13:6**ULT**

⁶ Howl, for the day of Yahweh {is} near; it comes with destruction from the Almighty.

UST

⁶ You people of Babylon will scream because you will be terrified, because it will be the time that Yahweh has determined, the time for the all-powerful God to destroy your city.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:7**ULT**

⁷ Therefore all hands hang limp, and every heart melts.

UST

⁷ Because that will happen, all of your people will be very afraid, with the result that they will be unable even to lift their arms.

What will the people do when the land is destroyed? (vv7-8)

Their hands will hang limp, and their hearts will melt; they will be terrified; pangs and sorrows will seize them. They will have looks of astonishment and their faces will be aflame.

Isaiah 13:8**ULT**

⁸ They will be terrified; pain and agony will seize {them}, like a woman in labor. They will look in astonishment at one another; their faces {will be} aflame.

UST

⁸ All of you will be terrified. You will have severe pains like a woman has when she is giving birth to a baby. You will look at each other helplessly, and it will show on your faces that you feel horror.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:9**ULT**

⁹ See, the day of Yahweh comes with cruel wrath and overflowing anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy the sinners from it.

UST

⁹ Listen to this, you people of Babylon: The day that Yahweh has chosen to act is near, the day on which he will furiously and fiercely punish you because he is very angry with you. He will cause your land of Babylonia to be desolate, and he will destroy all the sinners in it.

What else will happen during the day of Yahweh? (vv9-10)

The land will be made desolate and the sinners will be destroyed from it. The stars, constellations, sun and moon will not give their light; they will be darkened.

Isaiah 13:10**ULT**

¹⁰ The stars of heaven and the constellations will not give their light. The sun will be darkened even from dawn, and the moon will not shine.

UST

¹⁰ When that happens, none of the stars will shine. When the sun rises, it will be dark, and there will be no light from the moon at night.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:11**ULT**

¹¹ I will punish the world for {its} evil and the wicked for their iniquity. I will put an end to the arrogance of the proud and will bring down the arrogance of the ruthless.

UST

¹¹ Yahweh says, "I will punish everyone in the world for the evil things that they do; I will punish the wicked people for the sins that they have committed. I will stop arrogant people from being proud, and I will stop cruel people from being so arrogant.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:12**ULT**

¹² I will make men more rare than fine gold and mankind harder to find than the pure gold of Ophir.

UST

¹² And because I will cause most people to die, people will be harder to find than gold, harder to find than fine gold from Ophir in Arabia.

Will there be many men left?

No! Yahweh will make men more rare than fine gold.

Isaiah 13:13**ULT**

¹³ Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, and the earth will be shaken out of its place, by the fury of Yahweh of hosts, and on the day of his fierce anger.

UST

¹³ I will shake the sky, and the earth will also move out of its place. That will happen when I, Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, punish wicked people, when I show them that I am extremely angry with them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Like a hunted gazelle or like a sheep with no shepherd, every man will turn toward his own people and will flee to his own land.

UST

¹⁴ All the foreigners in Babylon will run around like deer that are being hunted, like sheep that do not have a shepherd. They will try to find other people from their countries, and then they will escape from Babylon and return to their own countries.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Every one who is found will be killed, and every one who is captured will die by the sword.

UST

¹⁵ Anyone who is captured in Babylon will be killed by their enemies' swords.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Their infants also will be dashed in pieces before their eyes. Their houses will be plundered and their wives raped.

UST

¹⁶ Their little children will be dashed to pieces on the rocks while their parents watch; their enemies will steal everything valuable from their houses and will force their wives to sleep with them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Look, I am about to stir up the Medes to attack them, who will not be concerned about silver, nor do they delight in gold.

UST

¹⁷ Look! I am going to incite the people of Media to attack Babylon. The army of Media will attack Babylon, even if they are offered silver or gold if they promise to not attack it.

Who is Yahweh going to stir up to attack the Babylonians?

Yahweh is going to stir up the Medes to attack the Babylonians.

Isaiah 13:18**ULT**

¹⁸ {Their} bows will strike down the young men; they will have no mercy on infants and they will not look with pity on children.

UST

¹⁸ With their arrows, the soldiers of Media will shoot the young men of Babylon; they will not even act mercifully toward infants or children!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Then Babylon, the most admired of kingdoms, the splendor of Chaldean pride, will be overthrown by God like Sodom and Gomorrah.

UST

¹⁹ Babylon has been a very beautiful city; all the people of Babylonia have been very proud of Babylon, their capital city; but God will destroy Babylon, like he destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.

What will happen to Babylon? (vv19-20)

God will overthrow them like Sodom and Gomorrah and they will not be inhabited or lived in from generation to generation.

Isaiah 13:20**ULT**

²⁰ It will not be inhabited or lived in from generation to generation. The Arab will not pitch his tent there, nor will shepherds have their flocks rest there.

UST

²⁰ No one will ever live in Babylon again. It will be deserted forever. Nomads will refuse to set up their tents there; shepherds will not bring their flocks of sheep to rest there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 13:21**ULT**

²¹ But wild animals of the desert will lie there. Their houses will be full of owls; and ostriches and wild goats will skip about there.

UST

²¹ Animals that live in the desert will be there; jackals will live in the ruins of the houses. Owls will live in the ruins, and ostriches and wild goats will romp around there.

What will lie in Babylon?

Wild animals of the desert will lie there.

Isaiah 13:22

ULT

²² Hyenas will cry in their fortresses, and jackals in the beautiful palaces. Her time {is} near, and her days will not be delayed.

UST

²² Hyenas will howl in the ruined towers, and jackals will make their dens in the ruins of the palaces that were previously very beautiful. The time when Babylon will be destroyed is very near; Babylon will not exist much longer.

When will these things happen to Babylon?

Babylon's time is near and her days will not be delayed.

Isaiah 14

Isaiah 14:1

ULT

¹ Yahweh will have compassion on Jacob; he will again choose Israel and restore them into their own land. Foreigners will join with them and attach themselves to the house of Jacob.

UST

¹ But Yahweh will act mercifully toward the Israelite people; he will choose the people of Israel to be his people again, and he will allow them to return here and live in their own land again. Then people from many other countries will come here and unite with the Israelite people.

What will Yahweh do to Israel?

Yahweh will again choose Israel and restore them into their own land.

Will anyone else go with the Israelites back to their land?

Foreigners will join with them and attach themselves to the house of Jacob.

Isaiah 14:2

ULT

² The nations will bring them to their own place. Then the house of Israel will take them in the land of Yahweh as male and female servants. They will take captive those who had captured them, and they will rule over their oppressors.

UST

² People of other nations will help them to return to their own land, and those who come from other countries will work for the Israelite people. Those who captured people of Israel will be captured by Israelite soldiers, and the people of Israel will rule over the people who previously oppressed them.

Who will bring the Israelites back to their own land?

The nations will bring them to their own place.

What will the house of Israel do to those nations that took Israel captive?

The house of Israel will take them as male and female servants. They will take captive those who had captured them and they will rule over their oppressors.

Isaiah 14:3**ULT**

³ On the day that Yahweh gives you rest from your suffering and anguish, and from the hard labor which you were required to perform,

UST

³ Some day Yahweh will free you Israelite people from suffering and trouble and from being afraid, and from being cruelly treated as slaves.

What will happen on the day that Yahweh gives Israel rest from their suffering, anguish, and hard labor? (vv3-4)

They will sing a song taunting the king of Babylon.

Isaiah 14:4**ULT**

⁴ you will sing this taunt song against the king of Babylon, "How the oppressor has come to an end, the proud fury ended! ^[1]

UST

⁴ When that happens, you will make fun of the king of Babylon by singing a song like this: "You treated us cruelly, but that has ended! You insulted others and made them suffer, but you can do this no longer!

What has happened to the oppressor?

The oppressor has come to an end.

Isaiah 14:5**ULT**

⁵ Yahweh has broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of those rulers,

UST

⁵ You evil ruler, Yahweh has destroyed your power, and you will oppress people no longer!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:6**ULT**

⁶ that struck the peoples in wrath with unceasing blows, that ruled the nations in anger, with an attack that was unrestrained.

UST

⁶ You attacked people many times because you were very angry with them, and you subdued other nations by causing them to suffer without stopping.

What had the king of Babylon done?

He had struck the people in wrath with unceasing blows. He had ruled the nations in anger, with an attack that was unrestrained.

Isaiah 14:7**ULT**

⁷ The whole earth is at rest {and} is quiet; they begin celebrating with singing.

UST

⁷ But soon everything will be quiet and peaceful on the earth. Everyone will sing again!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:8**ULT**

⁸ Even the cypress trees rejoice over you {with} the cedars of Lebanon; {they say}, 'Since you are laid low, no woodcutter comes up to cut us down.'

UST

⁸ It will be as though even the trees in the forests will joyfully sing this song, the cyprus trees and the cedar trees in Lebanon will sing it: 'You have been overthrown, and now no one comes to chop us down.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:9**ULT**

⁹ Sheol below is eager to meet {you} when you go there. It arouses the dead for you, all the kings of the earth, making them rise up from their thrones, all the kings of the nations.

UST

⁹ The dead people are all eagerly waiting for you to go to the place where they are. The spirits of the world leaders will be delighted to welcome you; those who were kings of many nations before they died will stand up to welcome you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:10**ULT**

¹⁰ They all will speak and say to you, 'You have become as weak as us. You have become like us.'

UST

¹⁰ They will all shout to you together, 'Now you are as weak as we are!'

What will the dead kings of the earth say to the king of Babylon? (vv10-11)

They will say, "You have become as weak as us..." and "Your pomp has been brought down to Sheol..."

Isaiah 14:11**ULT**

¹¹ Your pomp has been brought down to Sheol {with} the sound of your string instruments. Maggots are spread under you, and worms cover you.'

UST

¹¹ You were very proud and powerful, but all that ended when you died, along with the sounds of harps being played in your palace. Now in your grave maggots will be under you like a sheet, and worms will cover you like a blanket.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:12**ULT**

¹² How you are fallen from heaven, daystar, son of the morning! {How} you are cut down to the ground, you who conquered the nations!

UST

¹² You have disappeared from the earth like a star that fell from the sky; you were very well known, like the morning star is seen by everyone; you destroyed many nations, but now you have been destroyed.

What has happened to the son of the morning?

He has fallen from heaven and been cut down to the ground.

Isaiah 14:13**ULT**

¹³ You had said in your heart, 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God, and I will sit on the mount of assembly, in the far reaches of the north.'

UST

¹³ You proudly said to yourself, 'I will ascend to heaven, to my throne above God's stars. I will rule on the mountain where the gods gather together, far in the north.'

What did the son of the morning say in his heart? (vv13-14)

He said he would exalt his throne above the stars of God and make himself like the Most High God.

Isaiah 14:14**ULT**

¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High God.'

UST

¹⁴ I will ascend above the clouds and become like God himself!'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Yet you are now brought down to Sheol, to the depths of the pit.

UST

¹⁵ But you were not able to do that; Instead, you were carried down to your grave, and you went to the place where the dead people are.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Those who see you will gaze at you {and} they will pay attention to you. They will {say,} '{Is} this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms,

UST

¹⁶ The other dead people there stare at you; they wonder what happened to you. They say, 'Is this the man who caused the earth to shake and caused the people in many kingdoms to tremble?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:17**ULT**

¹⁷ who made the world like a wilderness, {who} overthrew its cities and did not let his prisoners go home?

UST

¹⁷ Is this the man who tried to cause the world to become a desert, who conquered its cities and did not allow the people whom he captured to return to their homes?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:18**ULT**

¹⁸ All the kings of the nations, all of them lie down in honor, each one in his own tomb.

UST

¹⁸ All the kings of the earth who have died were greatly honored when they were buried.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:19**ULT**

¹⁹ But you are cast out of your grave like a branch thrown away. The dead cover you {like} a garment, those pierced by the sword, who go down to the stones of the pit.

UST

¹⁹ Someone will cast you aside, but not into a grave, like a branch that they throw away. The dead cover you like a garment, those pierced by the sword, who go down to be among the stones where the dead rest.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:20**ULT**

²⁰ You will not join them in burial, because you have destroyed your land {and} killed your people. The offspring of evildoers will never be mentioned again."

UST

²⁰ Your dead body will not be buried with them because you have destroyed your land and have caused your own people to be killed. The descendants of wicked people like you will never be spoken of again."

Why will the king of Babylon not join the other kings of the nations in burial?

He will not join them because he destroyed his land and killed his people.

Isaiah 14:21**ULT**

²¹ Prepare your slaughter for his children, for the iniquity of their ancestors, so they will not rise up and possess the earth and fill the whole world with cities.

UST

²¹ People will say, "Slaughter this man's children because of the sins that their ancestors committed! Do not allow them to become rulers, and conquer all the nations in the world, and fill the world with the cities that they rule!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:22**ULT**

²² “I will rise up against them”—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts. “I will cut off from Babylon name, descendant, and posterity”—this is Yahweh’s declaration.

UST

²² This is what Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, says: “I myself will cause Babylon to be conquered. I will get rid of Babylon and its people and their descendants.

What is the declaration of Yahweh of Hosts against Babylon?

He declares, “I will rise up against them” and further, “I will cut off from Babylon name, descendant, and posterity.”

Isaiah 14:23**ULT**

²³ “I will also make her into a possession of owls, and into pools of water, and I will sweep her with the broom of destruction”—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

UST

²³ I will cause Babylon to be a place where owls live, a place full of swamps; I will destroy it completely as though I were sweeping it with a broom. That is what I, Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, say.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:24**ULT**

²⁴ Yahweh of hosts has sworn, “Surely, as I have intended, so it will come about; and as I have purposed, {so} it will be:

UST

²⁴ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, has also solemnly promised this: “The things that I have planned will surely happen.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:25**ULT**

²⁵ I will break the Assyrian in my land, and on my mountains trample him underfoot. Then his yoke will be lifted from off them and his burden from off their shoulder.

UST

²⁵ When the army of Assyria is in my land of Israel, I will crush them. It will be as though I had trampled them on my mountains. My people will no longer be the slaves of the people of Assyria; It will be as though I had taken away the burdens that were on their shoulders.

What has Yahweh of Host sworn concerning the Assyrian in Yahweh's land?

He said he would break the Assyrian in his land and on his mountains trample him under foot.

Isaiah 14:26**ULT**

²⁶ This {is} the plan that is intended for the whole earth, and this is the hand that is raised over all the nations.

UST

²⁶ There is a plan for everyone on the earth, a plan to show the power of Yahweh to punish all the nations.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:27**ULT**

²⁷ For Yahweh of hosts has planned this; who will stop him? His hand {is} raised, and who will turn it back?

UST

²⁷ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, has spoken, and no one can change his mind. When Yahweh raises his fist to strike Assyria, no one will be able to stop him."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:28**ULT**

²⁸ In the year that king Ahaz died this declaration came:

UST

²⁸ I received this message from Yahweh during the year that King Ahaz died:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:29**ULT**

²⁹ Do not rejoice, all you Philistines, that the rod that struck you is broken. For out of the serpent's root will grow out an adder, and his offspring {will be} a fiery flying serpent.

UST

²⁹ Do not rejoice, all you people of Philistia, that the enemy army that attacked you has been defeated and that their king is dead. He was as dangerous as a snake, but there will be another king, who will be more dangerous than a cobra; he will be like a quick-moving poisonous snake.

What was the declaration against Philistia? (vv29-30)

It was declared that Philistia should not rejoice, for Yahweh was going to kill Philistia's root with famine that will put to death all Philistia's survivors.

Isaiah 14:30**ULT**

³⁰ The firstborn of the poor will graze their sheep in my pastures, and the needy will lie down in safety. I will kill your root with famine that will put to death all your survivors.

UST

³⁰ Those of my people who are very poor will take care of their flocks of sheep, and the needy people will lie down safely, but I will cause you people of Philistia who are still alive to die from famine.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:31**ULT**

³¹ Howl, gate; cry, city; all of you will melt away, Philistia. For out of the north comes a cloud of smoke, and there is no straggler in his ranks.

UST

³¹ So, you people of Philistia, wail at the gates of your cities! You should be extremely afraid, because a very powerful army will come from the north to attack you; their chariots will stir up the dust like a cloud of smoke. Each of their soldiers is ready to fight.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 14:32**ULT**

³² How will they respond to the messengers of that nation? "Yahweh has founded Zion, and in her the afflicted of his people will find refuge."

14:4 ^[1], some versions have , , , or .

UST

³² If messengers from Philistia come to us Israelite people, this is what we must tell them: "Yahweh has created Jerusalem, not Philistia, and his people who are oppressed will be safe inside the walls of Jerusalem."

Who founded Zion?

Yahweh founded Zion.

What will the afflicted of Yahweh's people find in Zion?

The afflicted of Yahweh's people will find refuge in Zion.

Isaiah 15

Isaiah 15:1

ULT

¹ A declaration about Moab. Indeed, in one night Ar of Moab is laid waste {and} destroyed; indeed, in one night Kir of Moab is laid waste {and} destroyed.

UST

¹ Isaiah received this message from Yahweh about the Moab people group: In one night two important cities in Moab, Ar and Kir, will be destroyed.

Who is the declaration about?

The declaration is about Moab.

What will happen to Ar and Kir of Moab?

They will each be destroyed and laid waste in one night.

Isaiah 15:2

ULT

² They have gone up to the temple, the people of Dibon went up to the heights to weep; Moab laments over Nebo and over Medeba. All their heads are shaved bare {and} all their beards are cut off.

UST

² The people of Dibon, the capital city, will go to their temple to mourn; they will go to their high places set on the hilltops, and there they will weep. They will wail because of what happened to Nebo and Medeba in the south; they will all shave the hair of their heads, and the men will cut off their beards to show that they are grieving.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 15:3

ULT

³ In their streets they wear sackcloth; on their housetops and in the square everyone wails, melting in tears.

UST

³ In the streets people will wear rough sackcloth, and on their flat rooftops and in the city plazas all people will wail with tears streaming down their faces.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 15:4**ULT**

⁴ Heshbon and Elealeh call out for help; their sound is heard as far as Jahaz. So the armed men of Moab call out for help; they tremble within themselves.

UST

⁴ The people of the city of Heshbon and the towns of Elealeh in the north of Moab will cry out; people as far away as the town of Jahaz in the south will hear them wailing. Therefore the soldiers of Moab will tremble and cry out, and they will be very afraid.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 15:5**ULT**

⁵ My heart cries out for Moab; her fugitives {flee} to Zoar and to Eglath Shelishiyah. They go up the ascent of Luhith weeping; on the road to Horonaim they loudly wail over their destruction.

UST

⁵ Yahweh feels very sorry for the people of Moab; they will flee to the towns of Zoar and Eglath Shelishiyah in the far south. They will cry as they walk up to the town of Luhith. All along the road to the town of Horonaim people will mourn because their country has been destroyed.

Where will Moab's fugitives go?

They will flee to Zoar and to Eglath Shelishiyah.

Isaiah 15:6**ULT**

⁶ The waters of Nimrim are a desolation; the grass is withered; the vegetation has dried up; there is no more green grass.

UST

⁶ The water in the Valley of Nimrim will dry up. The grass there will be withered; the green plants will all be gone, and there will be nothing left that is green.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 15:7**ULT**

⁷ The abundance they have grown and stored they carry away over the brook of the poplars.

UST

⁷ The people will pick up their possessions and carry them across the brook of the Willows.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 15:8**ULT**

⁸ The cry has gone around the territory of Moab; the wailing as far as Eglaim and Beer Elim.

UST

⁸ Throughout the country of Moab, people will be crying; people as far away as Eglaim in the south and Beer Elim in the north will hear them wailing.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 15:9**ULT**

⁹ For the waters of Dimon are full of blood; but I will bring even more upon Dimon. A lion will attack those who escape from Moab and also those remaining in the land.

UST

⁹ The stream near Dimon will become red from the blood of people who have been killed, but I will cause the people of Moab to experience even more trouble: lions will attack those who are trying to escape from Moab and will also attack the people who remain in that country.

What has happened to the waters of Dimon and what will happen to Dimon?

The waters of Dimon are full of blood; but Yahweh will bring even more upon Dimon.

What will happen to those who escape from Moab and also those who remain in the land?

A lion will attack both those who escape from Moab and those who remain in Moab.

Isaiah 16

Isaiah 16:1

ULT

¹ Send rams to the ruler of the land from Selah in the wilderness, to the mount of the daughter of Zion.

UST

¹ The rulers of Moab will say to each other, "We must send some lambs from the city of Sela as a gift to the ruler of Judah to persuade him to not allow his army to attack us anymore. We should send them through the desert to the king in Jerusalem."

To whom are rams to be sent?

The rams are to be sent to the ruler of the land at the mount of the daughter of Zion.

Isaiah 16:2

ULT

² As wandering birds, as a scattered nest, {so} the women of Moab are at the fords of the Arnon River.

UST

² The women of Moab will be left alone at the fords of the Arnon River; they will be like birds that have been pushed out of their nests.

To what are the women of Moab at the fords of the Arnon River compared?

They are like wandering birds or a scattered nest.

Isaiah 16:3

ULT

³ "Give instruction, execute justice; provide some shade like night in the middle of the day; hide the fugitives; do not betray the fugitives.

UST

³ They will cry out, "Help us! Tell us what we should do! Protect us completely, we who are running away from our enemies, and do not betray us.

What is Judah supposed to do with the fugitives and refugees of Moab? (vv3-4)

They are to hide and not betray the fugitives and let the refugees live among them; be a hiding place from the destroyer.

Isaiah 16:4**ULT**

⁴ Let them live among you, the refugees from Moab; be a hiding place for them from the destroyer." For the oppression will stop, and destruction will cease, those who trample will disappear from the land.

UST

⁴ Allow those of us who are fleeing from Moab to stay with you; hide us from our enemies who want to destroy us! Some day there will be no one to oppress us, and our enemies will stop destroying our land."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 16:5**ULT**

⁵ A throne will be established in covenant faithfulness; and one from David's tent will faithfully sit there. He will judge as he seeks justice and does righteousness.

UST

⁵ Then Yahweh will appoint someone to be king who will be a descendant of King David. As this man rules, he will be merciful and truthful. He will always do what is fair and quickly do what is righteous.

What will the one from David's tent who sits on the throne do?

He will judge as he seeks justice and does righteousness.

Isaiah 16:6**ULT**

⁶ We have heard of Moab's pride, his arrogance, his boasting, and his anger. {But} his boastings are empty words.

UST

⁶ We people of Judah have heard about the people of Moab; we have heard that they are very proud and conceited; they are insolent, but what they say about themselves is not true.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 16:7**ULT**

⁷ So Moab wails for Moab—they all wail! Mourn, you who are utterly destroyed, for the raisin cakes of Kir Hareseth.

UST

⁷ Some day all the people in Moab will weep. They will all mourn, because there will be no more raisin cakes in the city of Kir Hareseth. But more than the cakes, they mourn for the people who lived there, who were all killed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 16:8**ULT**

⁸ The fields of Heshbon have dried up as well as the vines of Sibmah. The rulers of the nations have trampled the choice vines that reached to Jazer and spread into the desert. Its shoots spread abroad; they went over to the sea.

UST

⁸ The crops in the fields of Heshbon will wither, and the vineyards of Sibmah will wither also. The armies of other nations will destroy Moab, which is like a beautiful grapevine whose branches spread north to Jazer, and east to the desert. Its branches spread very far west, to the west side of the Dead Sea.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 16:9**ULT**

⁹ Indeed I will weep along with Jazer for the vineyard of Sibmah. I will water you with my tears, Heshbon, and Elealeh. For on your fields of summer fruits and harvest I have ended the shouts of joy.

UST

⁹ So I will weep for Jazer and for the grapevines of Sibmah. I will shed tears for all of you. I will cry because people will no longer shout joyfully, like they usually do when they gather the fruit that ripens in the summer and the other crops.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 16:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Gladness and joy are taken away from the fruit tree groves; and there is no singing, or shouts in the vineyards. No one treads out wine in the presses, for I have put an end to the shouts of the one who treads.

UST

¹⁰ People will no longer be glad at harvest time. No one will sing in the vineyards; no one will shout joyfully. No one will tread on grapes to get grape juice for wine; there will be nothing to shout about joyfully.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 16:11**ULT**

¹¹ So my heart sighs like a harp for Moab, and my inward being for Kir Hareseth.

UST

¹¹ I cry in my inner being for Moab; my groaning is like a sad song played on a harp. I am sad in my inner being for Kir Hareseth.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 16:12**ULT**

¹² When Moab wears himself out on the high place and enters his temple to pray, his prayers will accomplish nothing.

UST

¹² The people of Moab will go and pray at their high places, but that will not help them. They will cry out to their gods in their temples, but no one will be able to rescue them.

What will Moab accomplish when he enters his temple to pray?

Moab will accomplish nothing with his prayers.

Isaiah 16:13**ULT**

¹³ This {is} the word that Yahweh spoke concerning Moab previously.

UST

¹³ Yahweh has already spoken those things about Moab.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 16:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Again Yahweh speaks, "Within three years, the glory of Moab will disappear; in spite of his many people, the remnant {will be} very few and insignificant."

UST

¹⁴ But now he says that exactly three years from now, he will destroy all the things that the people of Moab have been proud of. Even though they have a huge number of people in Moab now, only a few people will remain alive, and they will be weak.

What was going to happen to the glory of Moab?

Yahweh said the glory of Moab would disappear within three years.

How many from Moab will be left?

The remnant of Moab will be very few and insignificant.

Isaiah 17

Isaiah 17:1

ULT

¹ A declaration about Damascus.

UST

¹ Isaiah received this message from Yahweh about Damascus, the capital of Aram: "Listen carefully! Damascus will no longer be a city; it will be only a heap of ruins!"

What will happen to the city of Damascus?

It will no longer be a city, but will be a heap of ruins.

Isaiah 17:2

ULT

² The cities of Aroer {will be} abandoned. They will be places for flocks to lie down, and no one will frighten {them}.

UST

² The towns near the city of Aroer will be abandoned. Flocks of sheep will eat grass in the streets and lie down there, and there will be no one to chase them away.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 17:3

ULT

³ Fortified cities will disappear from Ephraim, the kingdom from Damascus, and the remnant of Aram—they will be like the glory of the people of Israel—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

UST

³ The cities in Israel will not have walls around them to protect them. The power of the kingdom of Damascus will be ended, and the few people who will remain in Aram will be disgraced like the people in Israel were disgraced." That is what Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, says.

What will disappear from Ephraim?

Fortified cities will disappear from Ephraim.

Isaiah 17:4**ULT**

⁴ It will come about on that day {that} the glory of Jacob will become thin, and the fatness of his flesh will become lean.

UST

⁴ "At that time, Israel will become insignificant. It will be like a fat person who has become very thin.

What will happen to the glory of Jacob on that day?

The glory of Jacob will become thin and the fatness of his flesh will become lean on that day.

Isaiah 17:5**ULT**

⁵ It will be as when a harvester gathers the standing grain, and his arm reaps the heads of grain. It will be as when one gleans heads of grain in the Valley of Rephaim.

UST

⁵ The entire land will be like a field where the harvesters have cut all the grain; there will be nothing left, like the fields in the Valley of Rephaim after all the crops have been harvested.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 17:6**ULT**

⁶ Gleanings will be left, however, as when the olive tree is shaken: two {or} three olives in the top of the uppermost bough, four {or} five in the highest branches of a fruitful tree—this is the declaration of Yahweh, the God of Israel.

UST

⁶ Only a few of the Israelite people will remain, like the few olives that remain on the top of a tree after the workers have shaken all the other olives to the ground. There will be only two or three olives in the top branches, or four or five olives on the other branches." That is what Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, says.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 17:7**ULT**

⁷ On that day men will look toward their Maker, and their eyes will look to the Holy One of Israel.

UST

⁷ Then at that time, you people of Israel will trust in God, your creator, the Holy One of Israel.

To whom will men look on that day?

Men will look toward their Maker and their eyes will look to the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 17:8**ULT**

⁸ They will not look to the altars, the work of their hands, nor will they look to what their fingers have made, the Asherah poles or the sun images.

UST

⁸ You will no longer seek to get help from your idols or worship the idols that you have made with your own hands. You will never again bow down in front of the poles where you worshiped the goddess Asherah. You will never again worship at the high places that you have built to burn incense to idols.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 17:9**ULT**

⁹ On that day their strong cities will be like the abandoned wooded slopes on the hill summits, that were forsaken because of the people of Israel and that will become a desolation.

UST

⁹ The largest cities in Israel will be abandoned, like the land that the Hiv and Amor people groups abandoned when the Israelites attacked them long ago. No people will live there.

On that day what will their strong cities be like?

On that day their strong cities will be like the abandoned wooded slopes on the hill summits.

Isaiah 17:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For you have forgotten the God of your salvation, and have ignored the rock of your strength. So you plant pleasant plants, and set out vine branches received from a stranger,

UST

¹⁰ That will happen because you have stopped worshiping God, who is like a huge rock on top of which you can be safe. You have forgotten that he is the one who can hide you. So now you plant very nice grapevines and even unusual ones that come from other countries.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 17:11**ULT**

¹¹ on the day you plant and hedge and cultivate. Soon your seed will grow, {but} the harvest {will} fail on a day of grief and of desperate sorrow.

UST

¹¹ But even if they sprout leaves on the day you plant them, and even if they produce blossoms on that same morning, at harvest time, there will not be any grapes for you to pick. All that you will get is much of agony and suffering.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 17:12**ULT**

¹² Woe! The uproar of many peoples, that roar like the roaring of the seas, and the rushing of nations, {that} rush like the rushing of mighty waters!

UST

¹² Listen! The armies of many nations will roar like the sea roars. It will sound like noise of crashing waves.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 17:13**ULT**

¹³ The nations will roar like the rushing of many waters, but he will rebuke them and they will flee far away, they will be chased before the wind like chaff on the mountains, and like weeds whirling before a storm.

UST

¹³ But even though their loud roaring will be like the sound of crashing waves, when Yahweh rebukes them, they will run far away. They will flee like chaff on the hills scatters when the wind blows, like tumbleweeds scatter when a windstorm blows.

What will happen when the nations roar like the rushing of mighty waters?

God will rebuke the nations and they will flee away and be chased.

Isaiah 17:14**ULT**

¹⁴ In the evening, see, terror! Before the morning they will be gone! This {is} the portion of those who loot us, the lot of those who rob us.

UST

¹⁴ And even though you people of Israel will be terrified, in the morning your enemies will all be gone. That is what will happen to those who invade our land and steal our possessions.

What is the portion of those who rob Israel?

Their portion will be to see terror in the evening and to be gone before the morning.

Isaiah 18

Isaiah 18:1

ULT

¹ Woe to the land of the {rustling} of wings, which {is} along the rivers of Cush;

UST

¹ Terrible things will happen to you people of Ethiopia! In your land there are many boats at the upper part of the Nile River.

Where is the land of rustling wings?

The land of rustling wings is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia.

Isaiah 18:2

ULT

² who send ambassadors by the sea, in vessels of papyrus on the waters. Go, you swift messengers, to a nation tall and smooth, to a people feared far and near, a nation strong and trampling down, whose land the rivers divide.

UST

² Your rulers send ambassadors that sail quickly down the river in papyrus boats. Tell your messengers to go quickly! Go to people who are tall and who have smooth skins. People everywhere are afraid of those people, because they conquer and destroy other nations; they are people who live in a land that rivers divide.

To whom does the land of the rustling of wings send ambassadors?

They send ambassadors to a nation tall and smooth, to a people feared, a nation strong and conquering, whose land the rivers divide.

Isaiah 18:3**ULT**

³ All you inhabitants of the world and you who live on the earth, when a signal is lifted up on the mountains, look; and when the trumpet is blown, listen.

UST

³ You messengers must tell to the people of the world, to all people everywhere, "Look when the battle flag is lifted on top of the mountain, and listen when the ram's horn blows to signal that the battle is about to begin."

When are the inhabitants of the world supposed to look and listen?

They are to look and listen when a signal is lifted up on the mountains and when the trumpet is blown.

Isaiah 18:4**ULT**

⁴ This is what Yahweh said to me, "I will quietly observe from my home, like the simmering heat in sunshine, like a cloud of mist in the heat of harvest.

UST

⁴ Listen because Yahweh has told me this: "I will watch quietly from where I live. I will watch quietly like the heat that shimmers as it rises on a summer day. I will work effectively like the cloud of mist that settles during the heat of harvest.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 18:5**ULT**

⁵ Before the harvest, when the blossoming is over, and the flower is ripening into a grape, he will cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks, {and} he will cut down and take away the spreading branches.

UST

⁵ Before the harvest, the farmer sees the grapevines making blossoms and the flowers growing into grapes, and he knows that the time is right to cut off the new growth and spreading branches that keep the tree from growing strong. In the same way I know when the time is right to take action against that nation, and I will send an army to attack it.

What will Yahweh do before the harvest, when the blossoming is over?

Yahweh will cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks and he will cut down and take away the spreading branches.

Isaiah 18:6**ULT**

⁶ They will be left together for the birds of the mountains and for the animals of the earth. The birds will summer on them, and all the animals of the earth will winter on them.”

UST

⁶ All the soldiers in that nation's army will be killed, and their corpses will lie in the fields for vultures to eat their flesh in the summer. Then wild animals will chew on their bones all during the winter.”

What will happen when the birds summer on the branches and all the animals of the earth winter on them? (vv6-7)

At that time tribute will be brought to Mount Zion for Yahweh from a people tall and smooth.

Isaiah 18:7**ULT**

⁷ At that time tribute will be brought to Yahweh of hosts from a people tall and smooth, from a people feared far and near, a nation strong and trampling down, whose land the rivers divide, to the place of the name of Yahweh of hosts, to Mount Zion.

UST

⁷ At that time, the people of the nation that rivers divide will take gifts to Yahweh in Jerusalem. Those people are tall and have smooth skins; people everywhere are afraid of those people, because they conquer and destroy other nations, will take gifts to Jerusalem, the city where Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, lives.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19

Isaiah 19:1

ULT

¹ A declaration about Egypt. See, Yahweh rides on a swift cloud and is coming to Egypt; the idols of Egypt quake before him, and the hearts of the Egyptians melt within themselves.

UST

¹ Isaiah received this message from Yahweh about Egypt: Listen to this! I, Yahweh, am coming toward Egypt, riding on a fast-moving cloud. The idols in Egypt will tremble when I appear, and the people of Egypt will be extremely afraid.

Who is the declaration in this chapter about?

This chapter is a declaration about Egypt.

Who will stir up the Egyptians? (vv1-2)

Yahweh will stir up the Egyptians.

Isaiah 19:2

ULT

² "I will stir up Egyptians against Egyptians: A man will fight against his brother, and a man against his neighbor; city will be against city, and kingdom against kingdom.

UST

² I will cause the people of Egypt to fight against each other: men will fight against their brothers, neighbors will fight against each other, people of one city will fight against the people of another city, people of one province will fight against the people of another province.

Who will the Egyptians be stirred up against?

They will be stirred up against each other.

Isaiah 19:3**ULT**

³ The spirit of Egypt will be weakened from within. I will destroy his advice, though they sought the advice of idols, dead men's spirits, mediums, and spiritualists.

UST

³ The people of Egypt will become very discouraged, and I will cause their plans to not be successful. They will plead with idols and sorcerers and those who talk with spirits of dead people to tell them what they should do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:4**ULT**

⁴ I will give the Egyptians into the hand of a harsh master, and a strong king will rule over them— this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh of hosts.”

UST

⁴ Then I will enable someone who will treat them very cruelly to become their king. That is what I, Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, say.

Who will Yahweh cause to lead the Egyptians?

Yahweh will give the Egyptians into the hands of a harsh master, and a strong king will rule over them.

Isaiah 19:5**ULT**

⁵ The waters of the sea will dry up, and the river will dry up and become empty.

UST

⁵ Some day the water in the Nile River will dry up, and the riverbed will become very dry.

What will happen to the waters of Egypt?

The waters of the sea will dry up and the river will dry up and become empty.

Isaiah 19:6**ULT**

⁶ The rivers will become foul; the streams of Egypt will dwindle and dry up; the reeds and flags will wither away.

UST

⁶ The branches of the river will all dry up. The canals along the river will stink because of the withering and rotting reeds and bulrushes.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:7**ULT**

⁷ The reeds along the Nile, at the mouth of the Nile, and every sown field beside the Nile will become parched, will be driven away, and will be no more.

UST

⁷ All the plants along the river and all the crops in the fields bordering the river will dry up; then they will blow away and disappear.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:8**ULT**

⁸ The fishermen will wail and mourn, and all who cast a hook into the Nile will mourn, and those who spread nets on the waters will grieve.

UST

⁸ The fishermen will throw into the river lines with hooks on them and nets, and then they will groan and be very discouraged; they will be sad because there will be no fish in the river.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:9**ULT**

⁹ The workers in combed flax and those who weave white cloth will turn pale.

UST

⁹ Those who weave cloth from flax will not know what to do because there will be no thread for them to weave.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:10**ULT**

¹⁰ The cloth workers of Egypt will be crushed; all who work for hire will be grieved within themselves.

UST

¹⁰ They will all despair and be very discouraged.

What will happen to the cloth workers in Egypt?

The cloth workers will be crushed.

Isaiah 19:11**ULT**

¹¹ The princes of Zoan {are} completely foolish. The advice of the wisest advisors of Pharaoh has become senseless. How can you say to Pharaoh, "I {am} the son of wise men, a son of ancient kings?"

UST

¹¹ The officials in the city of Zoan in northern Egypt are foolish. The advice that they gave to the king was worthless. Why do they continue to tell the king that they are wise, that they are descendants of wise kings who lived long ago?

What has happened to the counsel of Pharaoh's counselors?

Their counsel has become senseless.

Isaiah 19:12**ULT**

¹² Where then {are} your wise men? Let them tell you and make known what Yahweh of hosts plans concerning Egypt.

UST

¹² King, where are your wise advisors now? If you had any wise advisors, they could tell you what Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, has planned to do to Egypt!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:13**ULT**

¹³ The princes of Zoan have become fools, the princes of Memphis are deceived; they have made Egypt go astray, {who are} the cornerstones of her tribes. ^[1]

UST

¹³ Yes, the officials of Zoan have become foolish, and the leaders in the city of Memphis in northern Egypt have deceived themselves. All the leaders of the people have caused their people to do wrong things.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Yahweh has mixed a spirit of distortion into her midst, and they have led Egypt astray in all she does, like a drunk staggering in his vomit.

UST

¹⁴ Yahweh has caused them to be very foolish, with the result that in everything that they do, it is as though the people of Egypt stagger like a drunken person staggers and slips in his own vomit.

Why has the counsel of Pharaoh's counselors become senseless?

Their counsel has become senseless because Yahweh has mixed a spirit of distortion into Egypt's midst.

Isaiah 19:15**ULT**

¹⁵ There is nothing anyone can do for Egypt, whether head or tail, palm branch or reed.

UST

¹⁵ There is no one in Egypt, rich or poor, important or unimportant, who will be able to help them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:16**ULT**

¹⁶ In that day, the Egyptians will be like women. They will tremble and fear because of the upraised hand of Yahweh of hosts that he raises over them.

UST

¹⁶ At that time, the people of Egypt will be as helpless as women. They will tremble, being terrified because they know that Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, has raised his fist, intending to strike them.

In that day what will the Egyptians be like?

In that day the Egyptians will be like women. They will tremble and fear.

Isaiah 19:17**ULT**

¹⁷ The land of Judah will become a cause of staggering to Egypt. Whenever anyone reminds them of her, they will be afraid, because of the plan of Yahweh, that he is planning against them.

UST

¹⁷ The people of Egypt will be afraid of the people of Judah, and anyone who mentions Judah to them will cause them to be terrified, because that will remind them of what Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, is planning to do to them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:18**ULT**

¹⁸ In that day there will be five cities in the land of Egypt that speak the language of Canaan and swear allegiance to Yahweh of hosts. One of these will be called The City of the Sun. ^[2]

UST

¹⁸ At that time, people in five cities in Egypt will solemnly declare that they will serve Yahweh. They will learn to speak the Hebrew language. One of those cities will be called "City of the Sun."

In that day what will five cities in Egypt do?

They will swear alligiance to Yahweh of Hosts.

Isaiah 19:19**ULT**

¹⁹ In that day there will be an altar to Yahweh in the middle of the land of Egypt, and a stone pillar at the border to Yahweh.

UST

¹⁹ At that time, there will be an altar for worshiping Yahweh in the center of Egypt, and there will be a pillar to honor Yahweh at the border between Egypt and Israel.

In that day what will be in the middle of the land of Egypt?

In that day there will be an altar to Yahweh in the middle of the land of Egypt.

Isaiah 19:20**ULT**

²⁰ It will be as a sign and a witness to Yahweh of hosts in the land of Egypt. When they cry to Yahweh because of oppressors, he will send them a savior and a defender, and he will deliver them.

UST

²⁰ That will be a sign to indicate that Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, is worshiped in the land of Egypt. And when the people cry out to Yahweh to help them because others are oppressing them, he will send to them someone who will defend and rescue them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:21**ULT**

²¹ Yahweh will become known to Egypt, and the Egyptians will acknowledge Yahweh on that day. They will worship with sacrifices and offerings, and will make vows to Yahweh and fulfill {them}.

UST

²¹ Yahweh will enable the people of Egypt to know who he is. At that time they will admit that he is God. They will worship him and bring to him offerings of grain and other sacrifices. They will solemnly promise to do things for Yahweh, and they will do what they promise.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:22**ULT**

²² Yahweh will afflict Egypt, afflicting and healing. They will return to Yahweh; he will hear their prayer and will heal {them}.

UST

²² After Yahweh has punished Egypt, he will cause their troubles to end. The people of Egypt will turn to Yahweh, and he will listen when they plead to him for help, and he will cause their troubles to cease.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 19:23**ULT**

²³ In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian will come to Egypt, and the Egyptian to Assyria; and the Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians.

UST

²³ At that time, there will be a highway between Egypt and Assyria. As a result, the people of Egypt will be able to travel easily to Assyria, and the people of Assyria will be able to travel easily to Egypt. And the people of both countries will worship Yahweh.

In that day who will worship Yahweh together?

The Egyptians and the Assyrians will worship Yahweh together.

Isaiah 19:24**ULT**

²⁴ In that day, Israel will be the third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth;

UST

²⁴ And Israel will be their ally. All three nations will be friendly to each other, and the people of Israel will be a blessing to the people of the entire world.

In that day who will be a blessing in the midst of the earth?

Israel, Egypt and Assyria will be a blessing in the midst of the earth.

Isaiah 19:25**ULT**

²⁵ Yahweh of hosts will bless them and say, "Blessed {be} Egypt, my people; Assyria, the work of my hands; and Israel, my inheritance."

19:13 ^[1], some versions have , the Hebrew name for the same city in Egypt.

19:18 ^[2], which probably refers to the Egyptian city of Heliopolis, some ancient and modern versions have .

UST

²⁵ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, will bless them; he will say, "You people of Egypt are now my people. You people of Assyria, I have established your country. You people of Israel are the people whom I have chosen to belong to me."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 20

Isaiah 20:1

ULT

¹ In the year that Tartan came to Ashdod, when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him, he fought against Ashdod and took it.

UST

¹ One year King Sargon of Assyria sent the chief commander of his army to take his soldiers to capture the city of Ashdod in Philistia. At that time,

What happened when Tartan came to Ashdod?

Tartan fought against Ashdod and took it.

Who sent Tartan to Ashdod?

Sargon the king of Assyria sent Tartan to Ashdod.

Isaiah 20:2

ULT

² At that time Yahweh spoke by Isaiah son of Amoz and said, "Go and remove the sackcloth from your waist, and take your sandals off your feet." He did so, walking naked and barefoot.

UST

² Yahweh told Isaiah, "Take off the rough sackcloth that you have been wearing and take off your sandals." So Isaiah did that, and then he walked around naked and barefoot for three years.

What did Yahweh tell Isaiah to do when Tartan took Ashdod?

Yahweh told Isaiah to remove his sackcloth and sandals and walk naked and barefoot.

Isaiah 20:3**ULT**

³ Yahweh said, "Just as my servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot for three years, it is a sign and an omen concerning Egypt and concerning Cush—

UST

³ Then Yahweh said this to the people of Judah: "My servant Isaiah has been walking around naked and barefoot for the past three years. That is to show the terrible disasters that I will cause the people of Egypt and Ethiopia to experience.

Why was Isaiah told to walk naked? (vv3-4)

This was to be a sign that the captives of Egypt and the exiles of Ethiopia were going to be lead away naked and barefoot by the king of Assyria.

Isaiah 20:4**ULT**

⁴ in this way the king of Assyria will lead away the captives of Egypt, and the exiles of Cush, young and old, naked and barefoot, and with buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.

UST

⁴ What will happen is that the army of the king of Assyria will invade those countries and capture many of the people and take them away as their prisoners. They will force all of them, including both the young ones and the old ones, to walk naked and barefoot. They will also force them to have no clothes around their buttocks, which will cause the people of Egypt to be ashamed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 20:5**ULT**

⁵ They will be dismayed and ashamed, because of Cush their hope and of Egypt their glory.

UST

⁵ Then the people of other countries who trusted that the armies of Egypt and Ethiopia would be able to help them will be very dismayed and afraid.

What will happen to those who put their hope in Ethiopia and Egypt? (vv5-6)

They will be dismayed and ashamed.

Isaiah 20:6

ULT

⁶ The inhabitants of these coasts will say on that day, 'Indeed, this {was} our source of hope, where we fled for help to be rescued from the king of Assyria, and now, how can we escape?'"

UST

⁶ They will say, 'We thought that the armies of Egypt and Ethiopia would help us and defend us, but they have been destroyed, so there is no way that we can escape from being destroyed by the army of the king of Assyria!'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 21

Isaiah 21:1

ULT

¹ A declaration about the desert by the sea. Like stormwinds sweeping through the Negev it comes passing through from the wilderness, from a terrible land.

UST

¹ Yahweh gave this message about a land soon to become a desert: An army will soon come from the southern Judean wilderness to invade that land; they are an army that causes their enemies to be terrified, an army that will come sweeping through the wilderness from a terrible land.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 21:2

ULT

² A distressing vision has been given to me: the treacherous man deals treacherously, and the destroyer destroys. Go up and attack, Elam; besiege, Media; I will stop all her groaning.

UST

² Yahweh showed me a terrifying vision: In the vision I saw an army that will betray people and steal their possessions after they conquer them. Yahweh said, "You armies from Elam and Media, surround Babylon and prepare to attack it! I will cause the groaning and suffering that Babylon caused to cease!"

What kind of vision was given to Isaiah?

A distressing vision was given to him.

What is the vision about?

Isaiah's vision is about an attack on Elam and a siege of Media.

Isaiah 21:3**ULT**

³ Therefore my loins are filled with pain; pains like the pains of a woman in labor have taken hold of me; I am bowed down by {what I} heard; I am disturbed by {what I} saw.

UST

³ Because of that, my body is full of pain; my pain is like the pain that women who are giving birth experience. When I hear about and see what God is planning to do, I am shocked.

How did this vision affect Isaiah? (vv3-4)

It gave Isaiah pain in his loins. He was bowed down and disturbed. His heart was pounding. He was shuddering and trembling.

Isaiah 21:4**ULT**

⁴ My heart pounds; I shake with fear. Twilight was my desire, but it brought me terror.

UST

⁴ My heart shakes within me, and I tremble with fear. Early evening is my favorite time of day, but now terror has taken over and I am afraid.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 21:5**ULT**

⁵ They prepare the table, they spread rugs and eat and drink; arise, princes, anoint your shields with oil.

UST

⁵ In the vision I saw that the leaders of Babylonia were preparing a great feast. They had spread rugs for people to sit on; everyone was eating and drinking. But you should get up and prepare your shields, you princes of Babylon, because you are about to be attacked!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 21:6**ULT**

⁶ For this is what the Lord said to me, "Go, post a watchman; he must report what he sees.

UST

⁶ Then Yahweh said to me, "Put a watchman on the wall of Jerusalem, and tell him to shout what he sees.

What did the Lord say to Isaiah?

The Lord told Isaiah to post a watchman and have the watchman report what he sees.

Isaiah 21:7**ULT**

⁷ When he sees a chariot, a pair of horsemen, riders on donkeys, and riders on camels, then he must pay attention and be very alert."

UST

⁷ Tell him to watch for chariots pulled by pairs of horses, and men riding camels and donkeys, coming from Babylon. Tell the watchman to watch and listen carefully!"

What is the watchman to do when he sees a chariot, horsemen in pairs and riders on donkeys and camels?

Then the watchman must pay attention and be very alert.

Isaiah 21:8**ULT**

⁸ The watchman cries out, ^[1] "Lord, on the watchtower I stand all day, every day, and at my post I stand all night long."

UST

⁸ So I did that, and one day the watchman called out, "Day after day I have stood on this watchtower, and I have continued to watch during the day and during the night.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 21:9**ULT**

⁹ Here comes a chariot {with} a man and a pair of horsemen. He calls out, "Babylon has fallen, fallen, and all the carved figures of its gods are broken to the ground."

UST

⁹ A man comes riding in a chariot pulled by two horses. I called out to him, and he answered, 'Babylon has been destroyed! All the idols in Babylon lie in pieces on the ground!'"

When a charioteer comes, what does he call out?

He calls out, "Babylon has fallen, fallen, and all the carved figures of its gods are broken to the ground."

Isaiah 21:10**ULT**

¹⁰ My threshed and winnowed ones, children of my threshing floor! What I have heard from Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel, I have declared to you.

UST

¹⁰ My people in Judah, the army of Babylon has caused you to suffer greatly as though you were grain that was threshed and winnowed. But now I have told you what Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, whom we Israelites worship, told me about Babylon.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 21:11**ULT**

¹¹ A declaration about Dumah. One calls to me from Seir, "Watchman, what is left of the night? Watchman, what is left of the night?"

UST

¹¹ Yahweh gave this message about Edom: Someone from Edom has been calling to me saying, "Watchman, how long will it be before the night is over?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 21:12**ULT**

¹² The watchman said, "The morning comes and also the night. If you want to ask, then ask; and come back again."

UST

¹² The watchman, replied, "It will soon be morning, but after that, it will soon be night again. If you want to ask your question, then ask it now, and then come back again."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 21:13**ULT**

¹³ A declaration about Arabia. In the wilderness of Arabia you spend the night, you caravans of Dedanites.

UST

¹³ Yahweh gave this message about Arabia: Give this message to people traveling in caravans from the town of Dedan in northwest Arabia, travelers who camp in the scrub there. Tell them to bring water for those who are thirsty.

Who spends the night in the wilderness of Arabia?

Caravans of Dedanites spend the night there.

Isaiah 21:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Bring water for the thirsty; inhabitants of the land of Tema, meet the fugitives with bread.

UST

¹⁴ And you people who live in the city of Tema in northwest Arabia, must bring food for the refugees who are fleeing from their enemies.

What are the caravans of Dedanites told to do?

They are told to bring water for the thirsty.

What are the inhabitants of the land of Tema told to do?

They are told to meet the fugitives with bread.

Isaiah 21:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For they have fled from the sword, from the drawn sword, from the bent bow, and from the weight of war.

UST

¹⁵ They are fleeing in order not to be killed by their enemies' swords and not to be shot in battles by arrows.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 21:16**ULT**

¹⁶ For this is what the Lord said to me, "Within a year, as a laborer hired for a year would see it, all the glory of Kedar will end.

UST

¹⁶ Yahweh said to me, "Exactly one year from now, all the greatness of the region of Kedar in Arabia will end.

What did the Lord tell Isaiah about Kedar? (vv16-17)

The Lord told Isaiah that within a year the glory of Kedar would end and only a few archers and warriors would remain.

Isaiah 21:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Only a few of the archers, the warriors of Kedar will remain," for Yahweh, the God of Israel, has spoken. 21:8 ^[1], some older versions have .

UST

¹⁷ Only a few of their soldiers who know well how to shoot arrows will remain alive. That will surely happen because I, Yahweh, have said it."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22

Isaiah 22:1

ULT

¹ A declaration about the Valley of Vision: What is the reason that you have all gone up to the housetops?

UST

¹ Yahweh gave this message about Jerusalem, about the valley where Yahweh showed me this vision. Why is everyone foolishly running up to their flat rooftops?

What is the topic of chapter 22?

It is a declaration about the valley of vision.

What have all the people gone?

They have all gone up to the housetops.

Isaiah 22:2

ULT

² Is it so you may hear a city full of noises, a town full of revelry? Your dead {were} not killed with the sword, and they did not die in battle.

UST

² Everyone in the city seems to be shouting. There are a lot of corpses in the city, but they were not killed by their enemies' swords. They did not die in battles; instead, they died from diseases and hunger.

What is happening in the city and town?

The city is noisy and the town full of revelry.

Did the dead die by the sword or in battle?

No the dead did not die by the sword or in battle.

Isaiah 22:3**ULT**

³ All your rulers fled away together, but they were captured without using a bow; all of them were captured together, though they had fled far away.

UST

³ All the leaders of the city fled. But then they were captured because they did not have bows and arrows to defend themselves. Your soldiers tried to flee while the enemy army was still far away, but they also were captured.

What happened to their rulers?

Their rulers fled away together and were caught and captured together.

Isaiah 22:4**ULT**

⁴ Therefore I said, "Do not look at me, I will weep bitterly; do not try to comfort me concerning the destruction of the daughter of my people."

UST

⁴ That is why I said, "Allow me to cry alone; do not try to comfort me about my people being slaughtered."

Why was Isaiah weeping bitterly?

He was weeping because of the destruction of the daughter of his people.

Isaiah 22:5**ULT**

⁵ For {there is} a day of tumult, treading down, and confusion for the Lord Yahweh of hosts, in the Valley of Vision, a breaking down of the walls, and people crying out to the mountains.

UST

⁵ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, has chosen a time when there will be a great uproar, soldiers marching, and people being terrified in the valley where I received this vision. It will be a time when our city walls will be battered down and the people's cries for help will be heard in the mountains.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:6**ULT**

⁶ Elam takes up the quiver, with chariots of men {and} horsemen, and Kir lays the shield bare.

UST

⁶ The armies from Elam and Kir in Media will attack, driving chariots and carrying shields.

Who is taking up the quiver and shield against them?

Elam takes up the quiver and Kir lays the shield bare.

Isaiah 22:7**ULT**

⁷ It will come about {that} your choicest valleys will be full of chariots, and the horsemen will take their positions at the gate.

UST

⁷ Our beautiful valleys will be filled with our enemies' chariots, and the men who drive the chariots will stand outside our city gates.

What will happen in Judah's choicest valleys?

Their valleys will be full of chariots.

Isaiah 22:8**ULT**

⁸ He took away the protection of Judah; and you looked in that day to the weapons in the Palace of the Forest.

UST

⁸ God will cause the walls that protect the cities in Judah to fall down. You people of Jerusalem will run to get the weapons that are stored in the building called "the Hall of the Forest."

What did God do with the protection of Jerusalem?

He took away their protection

Isaiah 22:9**ULT**

⁹ You saw the breaches of the city of David, that they were many, and you collected the water of the lower pool.

UST

⁹ You will see that there are many breaks in the walls of Jerusalem. You will store water in the lower pool in the city.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:10**ULT**

¹⁰ You counted the houses of Jerusalem, and you tore down the houses to fortify the wall.

UST

¹⁰ You will inspect the houses in Jerusalem, and some of them you will tear down to use the stones to repair the city wall.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:11**ULT**

¹¹ You made a reservoir between the two walls for the water of the old pool. But you did not consider the city's maker, who had planned it long ago.

UST

¹¹ Between the walls of the city you will build a reservoir to store water from the old pool. But you will never request help from the one who made the city; you have never depended on Yahweh, who planned this city long ago.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:12**ULT**

¹² The Lord Yahweh of hosts called on that day for weeping, for mourning, for shaved heads, and the wearing of sackcloth.

UST

¹² Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, told you to weep and mourn; he told you to shave your heads and to wear rough sackcloth to show that you were sorry for the sins that you had committed.

What did Yahweh of Hosts call for on that day?

He called for weeping and mourning, for shaved heads and the wearing of sackcloth.

What did the people do instead of weeping and mourning? (vv12-13)

The people celebrated and were glad. They killed cattle and sheep, eating meat and drinking wine.

Isaiah 22:13**ULT**

¹³ But look, instead, celebration and gladness, killing cattle and slaughtering sheep, eating meat and drinking wine; let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we will die.

UST

¹³ But instead of doing that, you were happy and celebrated; you slaughtered cattle and sheep in order to cook their meat and eat it and drink wine. You said, "Let us eat and drink all that we want to, because it is possible that we will die tomorrow!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:14**ULT**

¹⁴ This was revealed in my ears by Yahweh of hosts: "Surely this iniquity will not be forgiven you, even when you die," says the Lord Yahweh of hosts.

UST

¹⁴ So Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, revealed this to me: "I will never forgive my people for sinning like this!"

Will the Lord forgive the people for their response?

The Lord will not forgive them even when they die.

Isaiah 22:15**ULT**

¹⁵ The Lord Yahweh of hosts, says this, "Go to this administrator, to Shebna, who {is} over the house, {and say},

UST

¹⁵ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, said this to me: "Go to Shebna, the official who supervises the workers in the palace, and give this message to him:

What did Shebna, the administrator, do for himself? (vv15-16)

Shebna had a grave hewn for himself in the rock as a resting place.

Isaiah 22:16**ULT**

¹⁶ "What are you doing here and who gave you permission to cut out a tomb for yourself, hewing out a grave on the heights and carving out a resting place in the rock?"

UST

¹⁶ "Who do you think you are? Who gave you the authority to build a beautiful tomb where you will be buried, chiseling it out of the rocky cliff high above this valley?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:17**ULT**

¹⁷ See, Yahweh is about to throw you, a {mighty} man, about to throw you down; he will grasp you tightly.

UST

¹⁷ You think that you are a great man, but Yahweh is about to hurl you away. It will be as though he had seized you,

What did Yahweh say he would do to Shebna? (vv17-19)

Yahweh said he would throw Shebna down, and remove him from his office and station.

Isaiah 22:18**ULT**

¹⁸ He will surely wind you round and round, and toss you like a ball into a vast country. There you will die, and there your glorious chariots will be; you {will be} the shame of your master's house!

UST

¹⁸ rolled you into a ball, and throw you away in a large distant land. You will die and be buried there, and your beautiful chariots will stay there in the hands of your enemies. And because of what happens to you, your master, the king, will be very ashamed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:19**ULT**

¹⁹ "I will thrust you from your office and from your station. You will be pulled down.

UST

¹⁹ Yahweh says, "I will force you to quit working in the palace; you will be forced out from your important position.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:20**ULT**

²⁰ It will come about on that day that I will call my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

UST

²⁰ Then I will summon Hilkiah's son Eliakim, who has served me well, to replace you.

Who was to take Shebna's place of authority? (vv20-21)

Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah was to take Shebna's place of authority.

Isaiah 22:21**ULT**

²¹ I will clothe him with your tunic and put on him your sash, and I will transfer your authority into his hand. He will be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah.

UST

²¹ I will make him wear your robe and fasten your sash around him, and I will give to him the authority that you had. He will be like a father to the people of Jerusalem and all the other towns in Judah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:22**ULT**

²² I will place the key of the house of David on his shoulder; he will open, and none will shut; he will shut, and none will open.

UST

²² I will give to him authority over what happens in the palace where King David lived; when he decides something, no one will be able to oppose it; when he refuses to do something, no one will be able to force him to do it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:23**ULT**

²³ I will fasten him, a peg in a secure place, and he will become a seat of glory for his father's house.

UST

²³ I will cause his family to be greatly respected, because I will put him firmly in his position as supervisor of the workers in the palace, like a nail that is firmly hammered into a wall.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:24**ULT**

²⁴ They will hang on him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and descendants, every small container from the cups to all the jugs.

UST

²⁴ Others will enable him to have much responsibility, with the result that all the members of his family, even the most insignificant ones, will be honored.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 22:25**ULT**

²⁵ On that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—the peg driven in a firm place will give way, break off, and fall, and the weight that was on it will be cut off—for Yahweh has spoken.

UST

²⁵ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, also says, "Shebna is like a peg that is firmly fastened to the wall. But there will be a time when I will remove him from his position; he will lose his power, and everything that he promoted will fail." That will surely happen because Yahweh has said it.

On that day what will happen to the peg driven into a firm place?

The peg driven in a firm place will give way, break off and fall and the weight that was on it will be cut off.

Isaiah 23

Isaiah 23:1

ULT

¹ A declaration about Tyre: Howl, you ships of Tarshish; for there is neither home nor harbor; from the land of Cyprus it has been revealed to them. ^[1]

UST

¹ I, Isaiah, received this message from Yahweh for you, the people in the city of Tyre: You sailors on ships from Tarshish, weep, because the harbor of Tyre and all the houses in the city have been destroyed. The reports that you heard in the Island of Cyprus about Tyre are true.

About whom was the declaration in chapter 23 spoken?

The declaration in chapter 23 was about Tyre.

Why should the ships of Tarshish howl?

They should howl because they have neither home nor harbor.

Isaiah 23:2

ULT

² Be silent, you inhabitants of the coast; the merchant of Sidon, who travels over the sea, has filled you. ^[2]

UST

² You people who live along the coast, you merchants of the city of Sidon, mourn silently. Your sailors went across the seas to make you rich, there in Tyre.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:3

ULT

³ Upon the great waters was the grain of Shihor, the harvest of the Nile was her produce; and it became the commerce of the nations.

UST

³ They sailed across deep seas to buy grain in Egypt, grain from the Valley of Shihor. This wealth came down the Nile River, and you, Tyre, were the place where the people of all nations traded.

What was the city of Tyre?

Tyre was the marketplace of nations.

Isaiah 23:4**ULT**

⁴ Be ashamed, Sidon; for the sea has spoken, the mighty one of the sea. He says, "I have not labored nor given birth, {nor} have I raised young men nor brought up young women."

UST

⁴ But now you people in Sidon should be ashamed, because you trusted in Tyre, which has been a strong fortress on an island in the sea. Tyre is like a woman who is saying, "Now it is as though I have not given birth to any children, or raised any sons or daughters."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:5**ULT**

⁵ When the report {comes to} Egypt, they will be grieved concerning Tyre.

UST

⁵ When the people of Egypt hear what has happened to Tyre, they will grieve very much.

What will Egypt do when they hear the report concerning Tyre?

Egypt will grieve when they hear the report about Tyre.

Isaiah 23:6**ULT**

⁶ Cross over to Tarshish; wail, you inhabitants of the coast.

UST

⁶ Sail to Tarshish and tell them what happened; weep, you people who live along the coast.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:7**ULT**

⁷ Has this happened to you, the joyful {city,} whose origin {is} from ancient times, whose feet carried her far away to foreign places to settle?

UST

⁷ The people in the very old city of Tyre were previously joyful. Traders from Tyre established colonies in many distant nations.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:8**ULT**

⁸ Who has planned this against Tyre, the giver of crowns, whose merchants {are} princes, whose traders {are} the honored ones of the earth?

UST

⁸ People from Tyre appointed kings over other places; their traders were wealthy; they were as powerful and wealthy as kings. Who caused the people of Tyre to experience this disaster?

Who planned this against Tyre? (vv8-9)

The Lord of Hosts planned this against Tyre.

Isaiah 23:9**ULT**

⁹ Yahweh of hosts has planned it to dishonor her pride and all her glory, to shame all her honored ones of the earth.

UST

⁹ It was Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, who did it; he did it in order to cause you people in Tyre to not be proud anymore, to humiliate you men who are honored all over the world.

Why has the Lord of Hosts planned this against Tyre?

He has planned this to dishonor her pride and all her glory, to shame all her honored ones of the earth.

Isaiah 23:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Plow your land, as one plows the Nile, daughter of Tarshish. {There is} no longer a marketplace in Tyre. ^[3]

UST

¹⁰ You people of Tarshish, you must grow crops in your land instead of trading; spread out over your land like the Nile River spreads over the land of Egypt when it floods, because there is no harbor in Tyre for your ships now.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:11**ULT**

¹¹ Yahweh has reached out with his hand over the sea, and he has shaken the kingdoms; he has given a command concerning Phoenicia, to destroy the strongholds.

UST

¹¹ It is as though Yahweh stretched out his hand over the sea and shook the kingdoms of the earth. He commanded that in Phoenicia all its fortresses must be destroyed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:12**ULT**

¹² He said, "You will not rejoice again, oppressed virgin daughter of Sidon; arise, pass over to Cyprus; but neither there you will have rest."

UST

¹² He said to the people of Sidon, "You will never rejoice again, because you will be crushed; even if you flee to the island of Cyprus, you will not escape from troubles; you will have no peace."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:13**ULT**

¹³ See the land of the Chaldeans. This people has ceased to be; the Assyrians have made it a wilderness for wild animals. They set up their siege towers; they demolished its palaces; they made it a heap of ruins.

UST

¹³ Think about what happened in Babylonia: the people who were in that land have disappeared. The armies of Assyria have caused that land to become a place where wild animals from the desert live. They built dirt ramps to the top of the walls of the city of Babylon; then they entered the city and tore down the palaces and caused the city to become a heap of rubble.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Howl, you ships of Tarshish; for your refuge has been destroyed.

UST

¹⁴ So wail, you sailors on the ships of Tarshish, because the harbor in Tyre where your ships stop is destroyed!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:15**ULT**

¹⁵ In that day, Tyre will be forgotten for seventy years, like the days of a king. After the end of seventy years there will happen in Tyre something like in the song of the prostitute.

UST

¹⁵ For seventy years, which is as long as kings usually live, people will forget about Tyre. But then it will be rebuilt. What will happen there will be like what happened to a prostitute in this song:

How long will Tyre be forgotten?

In that day, Tyre will be forgotten for seventy years.

Isaiah 23:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Take a harp, go about the city, you forgotten prostitute; play it well, sing many songs, so that you may be remembered.

UST

¹⁶ You harlot, whom people had forgotten, play your harp well, and sing many songs, in order that people will remember you again.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 23:17**ULT**

¹⁷ It will come about that after seventy years, Yahweh will help Tyre, and she will start making money again by doing the work of a prostitute, and she will offer her services to all the kingdoms of the earth.

UST

¹⁷ It is true that after seventy years Yahweh will restore Tyre. Their merchants will again earn a lot of money by buying things from and selling things to many other nations.

What will happen to Tyre after being forgotten for seventy years?

Yahweh will help Tyre, and she will return to her hire and prostitute herself with all the kingdoms on earth.

Isaiah 23:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Her profits and earnings will be set apart to Yahweh. They will not be stored up or kept in the treasury, for her profits will be given to those who live in Yahweh's presence and will be used to supply them with abundant food and so they can have the best quality clothing.

23:1 ^[1], some modern versions keep , the Hebrew name for this island.

23:2 ^[2] or .

23:10 ^[3], some versions have or .

UST

¹⁸ But their profits will be given to Yahweh. The merchants will not hoard their money; instead, they will give it to Yahweh's people, for they will live in his presence, in order that they can buy food and nice clothes.

What will happen to the Tyre's profits and earnings?

Her profits and earnings will be reserved for Yahweh.

What will happen to Tyre's merchandise?

It will be for those who live in Yahweh's presence, for them to eat and have lasting clothing.

Isaiah 24

Isaiah 24:1

ULT

¹ Look, Yahweh is about to empty the earth, to devastate it, mar its surface, and scatter its inhabitants.

UST

¹ Some day Yahweh is going to destroy the earth. He will devastate it and cause it to become a desert, and he will scatter its people.

What is Yahweh about to do?

He is about to empty the earth, to devastate it, mar its surface and scatter its inhabitants.

Isaiah 24:2

ULT

² It will come about that, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the creditor, so with the debtor; as with the receiver of interest, so with the giver of interest.

UST

² He will scatter everyone: priests and common people, servants and their masters, maids and their mistresses, buyers and sellers, lenders and borrowers, people who owe money and people who are owed money.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:3

ULT

³ The earth will be completely devastated and completely stripped; for Yahweh has spoken this word.

UST

³ Nothing that is worth anything will be left on earth; everything valuable will be destroyed. That will surely happen because Yahweh has said it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:4**ULT**

⁴ The earth dries up and withers, the world shrivels up {and} fades away, the prominent people of the earth waste away.

UST

⁴ Everything on the earth will dry up and die; its important people will become weak and unimportant.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:5**ULT**

⁵ The earth is polluted by its inhabitants because they have transgressed the laws, violated the statutes, and broken the everlasting covenant.

UST

⁵ The earth has become unacceptable to Yahweh because the people who live on it have disobeyed his laws; they have rejected the covenant that he intends to last forever.

How has the earth been polluted by its inhabitants?

The earth has been polluted because its inhabitants have transgressed the laws, violated the statutes and broken the everlasting covenant.

Isaiah 24:6**ULT**

⁶ Therefore a curse devours the earth, and its inhabitants are found guilty. The inhabitants of the earth burn up, and few people {are} left.

UST

⁶ Therefore, Yahweh will curse the earth; the people who live on it must be punished because of the sins that they have committed. They will be destroyed by fire, and only a few people will remain alive.

What happens to the inhabitants of the earth?

They will burn up and few people will be left.

Isaiah 24:7**ULT**

⁷ The new wine dries up, the vine withers, all the merry-hearted groan.

UST

⁷ The grapevines will wither, and there will be no grapes to make wine. All the people who were previously happy will now groan and mourn.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:8**ULT**

⁸ The happy sound of the tambourines stops, and the revelry of those who rejoice; the joy of the lyre ceases.

UST

⁸ People will no longer play cheerful songs with tambourines, people will no longer play joyfully on their harps, and people will no longer shout noisily during their celebrations.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:9**ULT**

⁹ They no longer drink wine and sing, and the beer is bitter to those who drink it.

UST

⁹ People will no longer sing while they drink wine, and all their alcoholic drinks will taste bitter.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:10**ULT**

¹⁰ The city of chaos has been broken down; every house is closed up and empty.

UST

¹⁰ Towns and cities will be desolate; every house will be locked to prevent thieves from entering, for no one will live in them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:11**ULT**

¹¹ {There is} a crying in the streets because of the wine; all joy is darkened, the gladness of the land has disappeared.

UST

¹¹ Mobs will gather in the streets, wanting wine; no one on the earth will be happy anymore.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:12**ULT**

¹² In the city is left a desolation, and the gate is broken into a ruin.

UST

¹² Cities will be ruined, and all their gates will be battered into pieces.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:13**ULT**

¹³ For this is how {it will be} on the whole earth among the nations, as when an olive tree is beaten, as the gleanings when the grape harvest is done.

UST

¹³ It will be like that all over the earth: there will only be a few people still alive, like what happens when workers beat all the olives off a tree and there are only a few left, or when they harvest the grapes and there are only a few left on the vines.

What image does Isaiah use to show how it will be at that time on the whole earth among the nations?

He compares conditions on the earth at that time to how it is when an olive tree is beaten or as the gleanings when the grape harvest is done.

Isaiah 24:14**ULT**

¹⁴ They will lift up their voices and shout the majesty of Yahweh, and will joyfully shout from the sea.

UST

¹⁴ Those in the west will sing with great happiness; they will declare that Yahweh is very great.

In the midst of all this calamity what will “they” do?

They will lift up their voices and shout the majesty of Yahweh and will joyfully shout from the sea.

Isaiah 24:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Therefore in the east glorify Yahweh, and in the isles of the sea give glory to the name of Yahweh, the God of Israel.

UST

¹⁵ Those in the east of Israel will also praise Yahweh; those along the coastlines of the sea will praise Yahweh, the God the people Israel worship.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:16**ULT**

¹⁶ From the farthest part of the earth we have heard songs, “Glory to the righteous one!” But I said, “I have wasted away, I have wasted away, woe is me! The treacherous have dealt treacherously; yes, the treacherous have dealt very treacherously.”

UST

¹⁶ We will hear people in the most distant places on the earth singing praise to Yahweh, the truly righteous one. But now, I am very sad. Weep for me, because I have become thin and weak. Terrible things are happening! Treacherous people still betray others everywhere.

What is Isaiah’s response to the shouting and calls to glorify Yahweh, the God of Israel?

Isaiah responds by saying, “I have wasted away, I have wasted away, woe is me! The treacherous have dealt treacherously; yes, the treacherous have dealt very treacherously.”

Isaiah 24:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Terror, the pit, and the snare {are} upon you, inhabitants of the earth.

UST

¹⁷ You people all over the earth, you will be terrified, and you will fall into deep pits and traps.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:18**ULT**

¹⁸ He who flees from the sound of terror will fall into the pit, and he who comes up out of the middle of the pit will be caught in the snare. The windows of the heavens will be opened, and the foundations of the earth will shake.

UST

¹⁸ Those who try to flee because they are terrified will fall into deep pits, and those who climb out of the pits will be caught by traps. The sky will split open and torrents of rain will fall; the foundations of the earth will shake.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:19**ULT**

¹⁹ The earth will be completely broken, the earth ripped apart; the earth will be violently shaken.

UST

¹⁹ The earth will split apart and be shattered; it will shake violently.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:20**ULT**

²⁰ The earth will stagger like a drunken man and it will sway back and forth like a hut. Its sin will be heavy on it and it will fall and never rise again.

UST

²⁰ It will be as though the earth will stagger like a drunk; it will shake like a hammock in a windstorm. It will collapse and not be able to rise again, because the guilt of the people who rebel against Yahweh is very great.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 24:21**ULT**

²¹ On that day Yahweh will punish the host of the heaven in the heavens, and the kings of the earth on the earth.

UST

²¹ At that time, Yahweh will punish the wicked powerful beings in the skies and the wicked kings on the earth.

On that day who will Yahweh punish?

Yahweh will punish the host of the high ones on high and the kings of the earth on the earth.

Isaiah 24:22**ULT**

²² They will be gathered together, prisoners in a pit, and will be shut up in a prison; and after many days they will be punished.

UST

²² They will all be gathered together and thrown into a dungeon. They will be shut in that dungeon, and later they will be punished.

What will be the punishment for the host of the high ones on high and the kings of the earth on the earth?

They will be gathered together, prisoners in a pit and will be shut up in prison and after many days they will be sentenced.

Isaiah 24:23**ULT**

²³ Then the moon will be ashamed, and the sun disgraced, for Yahweh of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and before his elders in glory.

UST

²³ At that time the light of the moon and the sun will be lessened; it will be as though they are ashamed in the presence of Yahweh, because he, Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, will rule gloriously on Mount Zion, in the presence of all the leaders of his people.

Why will the moon be ashamed and the sun disgraced?

This will be because Yahweh of Hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and before his elders in glory.

Isaiah 25

Isaiah 25:1

ULT

¹ Yahweh, you {are} my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful {things,} things planned long ago, in perfect faithfulness.

UST

¹ Yahweh, you are my God; I will honor you and praise you. You do wonderful things; you said long ago that you would do those things, and now you have done them as you said that you would.

Why did Isaiah exalt and praise Yahweh?

Isaiah exalted and praised Yahweh because Yahweh had done wonderful things, things planned long ago, in perfect faithfulness.

Isaiah 25:2

ULT

² For you have made the city a heap, a fortified city, a ruin, and a fortress of strangers into no city.

UST

² Sometimes you have caused cities to become heaps of rubble, cities that had strong walls around them. You have caused palaces in foreign countries to disappear; they will never be rebuilt.

What wonderful things had Yahweh done?

Yahweh made the city a heap, a fortified city a ruin and a fortress of strangers into no city.

Isaiah 25:3

ULT

³ Therefore a strong people will glorify you; a city of ruthless nations will fear you.

UST

³ Therefore, people in powerful nations will declare that you are very great, and people in nations whose leaders show mercy to no one will revere you.

What will be the response after Yahweh makes the city a heap, etc.?

A strong people will glorify Yahweh and a city of ruthless nations will fear him.

Isaiah 25:4**ULT**

⁴ For you have been a place of safety for the one who is poor, a shelter for the one who is needy in his distress— a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. When the breath of the ruthless was like a storm {against} a wall,

UST

⁴ Yahweh, you are like a strong tower where poor people can find refuge, a place where needy people can go when they are distressed. You are like a place where people can find refuge in a storm and where they can stay in the shade, out of the hot sun. People oppress us and show us no mercy, they are like a storm beating against a wall,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 25:5**ULT**

⁵ and like heat in a dry land, you subdued the noise of foreigners, as the heat is subdued by the shade of a cloud, so the song of the ruthless ones is answered.

UST

⁵ and like the very strong heat in the dry land. But you cause the noisy cries of people from foreign nations to be quiet. Like the air cools when a cloud comes overhead, you stop merciless people from singing songs about how great they are.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 25:6**ULT**

⁶ On this mountain Yahweh of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things, of choice wines, of tender meats, a feast on the lees.

UST

⁶ Here in Jerusalem Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, will prepare a wonderful feast for all the people of the world. It will be a banquet with plenty of good meat and fine well-aged wine.

What will Yahweh do for and to all peoples on that mountain? (vv6-7)

He will make a feast of fat things for all peoples and he will destroy the coverings of all peoples, the web woven over all nations.

Isaiah 25:7**ULT**

⁷ He will destroy on this mountain the covering over all peoples, the web woven over all the nations.

UST

⁷ People here are sad; they are so sad that it is like a dark cloud that hangs over them, like they experience when someone dies. But Yahweh will enable them to quit being sad.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 25:8**ULT**

⁸ He will swallow up death forever, and the Lord Yahweh will wipe away tears from off all faces; the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for Yahweh has spoken it.

UST

⁸ He will get rid of death forever! Yahweh our God will cause people to no longer mourn because someone has died. And he will stop other people insulting and making fun of his land and us his people. That will surely happen because Yahweh has said it!

What will Yahweh swallow up, wipe away and take away from his people?

He will swallow up death, wipe away tears from all faces and he will take away the disgrace of His people.

Isaiah 25:9**ULT**

⁹ It will be said on that day, "Look, this {is} our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us. This {is} Yahweh; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

UST

⁹ At that time, people will proclaim, "Yahweh is our God! We trusted in him, and he has rescued us! Yahweh, in whom we trusted, has done it; we should rejoice because he has saved us!"

What will be said on that day?

This will be said: "Look, this is our God: we have waited for him and he will save us. This is Yahweh; we have waited for him. We will be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Isaiah 25:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For on this mountain the hand of Yahweh will rest; and Moab will be trampled down in his place, even as straw is trampled down in a pit filled with manure.

UST

¹⁰ Yahweh will protect and bless Jerusalem. But he will crush the people in the land of Moab; they will be like straw that is trampled in the manure and left to rot.

What is Moab's fate likened to?

Moab's fate is compared to straw that is trampled down in a pit filled with manure.

Isaiah 25:11**ULT**

¹¹ They will spread their hands in the midst of it, as a swimmer spreads his hands to swim. But Yahweh will bring down their pride in spite of the skill of their hands.

UST

¹¹ Yahweh will push down the people of Moab; they will be like a swimmer who pushes down the water with his hands; they will push their hands through the dung but never get out of it. He will cause them to cease being proud, and he will show that all the things that they have done are worthless.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 25:12**ULT**

¹² Your high fortress walls he will bring down to the ground, to the dust.

UST

¹² He will cause armies to tear down the high walls around the cities of Moab; they will fall into pieces and lie in the dust.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 26**Isaiah 26:1****ULT**

¹ In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: We have a strong city; {God} has made salvation its walls and ramparts.

UST

¹ Some day, people in Judah will sing this song: "Our city of Jerusalem is strong! Yahweh protects our city; He is like a wall that surrounds it.

In that day where will this song be sung?

This song will be sung in the land of Judah.

How has God made the city strong?

He has made it strong by making salvation its walls and ramparts.

Isaiah 26:2**ULT**

² Open the gates, that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

UST

² Open the gates of the city for people who are righteous; allow people who faithfully obey Yahweh to enter the city.

For whom will the gates of the city be opened?

The gates will be opened for the righteous nation that keeps faith.

Isaiah 26:3**ULT**

³ The mind {that} {is} stayed {on you}, you will keep {him} in {perfect} peace, for he trusts in you.

UST

³ Yahweh, those who trust in you, those who are determined to never doubt you, you will enable them to be perfectly peaceful in their inner beings.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 26:4**ULT**

⁴ Trust in Yahweh forever; for in Yah, Yahweh, {is} an everlasting rock.

UST

⁴ So always trust in Yahweh, because he is forever like a huge rock on top of which we will be safe.

Who should we trust in and for how long should we trust?

We should trust in Yahweh forever.

Isaiah 26:5**ULT**

⁵ For he will bring down those who live proudly; the fortified city he will lay low, he will lay low to the ground; he will level it to the dust.

UST

⁵ He humbles proud people and destroys cities whose people are arrogant. He causes those cities to collapse into the dust.

What will happen to those who live proudly; the fortified city? (vv5-6)

Yahweh will lay them low; he will level the fortified city to the dust. It will be trampled down by the feet of the poor and the treading of the needy.

Isaiah 26:6**ULT**

⁶ It will be trampled down by the feet of the poor {and} the treading of the needy.

UST

⁶ When that happens, poor and oppressed people will trample on the ruins.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 26:7**ULT**

⁷ The path of the righteous {is} level, Righteous One; the path of the righteous you make straight.

UST

⁷ But for the righteous people, Yahweh, you do what is right; it is as though you smooth out the paths where they walk.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 26:8**ULT**

⁸ Yes, in the path of your judgments, Yahweh, we wait for you; your name and your reputation are our desire.

UST

⁸ Yahweh, by obeying your laws we show that we trust you to help us; and what we desire in our inner beings is that you will be honored.

What is the desire of our soul?

The name and memory of Yahweh are the desire of our soul.

Isaiah 26:9**ULT**

⁹ I have longed for you in the night; yes, my spirit within me seeks you earnestly. For when your judgments come on the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn about righteousness.

UST

⁹ All during the nights I desire to know you better, and in the mornings I still want to be with you. When you come to judge and punish people who live on the earth they will learn to do what is right.

What happens when judgments come on the earth?

When judgments come the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

Isaiah 26:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Let favor be shown to the wicked one, {but} he will not learn righteousness. In the land of uprightness he acts wickedly and does not see the majesty of Yahweh.

UST

¹⁰ But your acting kindly toward wicked people does not cause them to do what is good. Even in places where people do what is right, the wicked people continue to do what is evil, and they do not realize that you, Yahweh, are great.

What will the wicked one do when he is shown favor?

He will not learn righteousness.

Isaiah 26:11**ULT**

¹¹ Yahweh, your hand is lifted up, but they do not notice. But they will see your zeal for the people and be put to shame, because fire of your adversaries will devour them.

UST

¹¹ Yahweh, it is as though your fist was raised up ready to strike them, but they do not realize that. Show them that you are very eager to help your people. If your enemies would realize that, they would be ashamed; make your fire burn them up because they are your enemies.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 26:12**ULT**

¹² Yahweh, you will bring about peace for us; for indeed, you have also accomplished all our works for us.

UST

¹² Yahweh, we desire that you will allow things to go well for us; all that we have done is what you have enabled us to do.

What has Yahweh done for Judah and what will he bring about for Judah?

Yahweh has accomplished all our works for us and will bring about peace for Judah.

Isaiah 26:13**ULT**

¹³ Yahweh our God, other masters besides you have ruled over us; {but} we praise your name alone.

UST

¹³ Yahweh, our God, other masters have ruled over us, but you are the only one whom we honor.

What happened to the other lords who ruled over Judah? (vv13-14)

They are dead, they will not live; they are deceased and will not rise. Yahweh came in judgment and destroyed them.

Isaiah 26:14**ULT**

¹⁴ {They are} dead, they will not live; {they are} deceased, they will not arise. Indeed, you came in judgment and destroyed them, and made every memory of them to perish.

UST

¹⁴ Those who ruled us are now gone; they are dead; their spirits have left this earth and they will never live again. You punished those rulers and got rid of them, and people do not even remember them anymore.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 26:15**ULT**

¹⁵ You have increased the nation, Yahweh, you have increased the nation; you are honored; you have extended all the borders of the land.

UST

¹⁵ Yahweh, you have enabled our nation to become great; we are more people now, and we have more land, so we thank you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 26:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Yahweh, in trouble have they looked to you; they whispered prayers {when} your discipline {was} on them.
[1]

UST

¹⁶ Yahweh, when we were distressed, we asked you to help us; when you disciplined us, we could barely speak out any prayer to you.

When did Judah look to Yahweh?

They looked to Yahweh when they were in trouble; when Yahweh disciplined them.

Isaiah 26:17**ULT**

¹⁷ As a pregnant {woman} nears the time for her to give birth, when she is in pain and cries out in her labor pains, so we have been before you, Lord.

UST

¹⁷ Like pregnant women who writhe and cry out when they are giving birth, we suffered very much, too.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 26:18**ULT**

¹⁸ We have been pregnant, we have been in labor, but it is as if we have only given birth to wind. We have not brought salvation to the earth, and the inhabitants of the world have not fallen.

UST

¹⁸ We were pregnant and had severe pain, but nothing good resulted from it. We have not rescued any people or kept their enemies from conquering them, and those in the world who were our enemies did not fall in battle.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 26:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Your dead will live; their dead bodies will arise. Awake and sing for joy, you who live in the dust; for your dew is the dew of light, and the earth will bring forth its dead.

UST

¹⁹ But Yahweh's people who have died will become alive again, their corpses will become alive! You whose bodies lie in graves, rise and shout joyfully! His light will be like dew that falls on you, his people who have died, you who are now in the place where the dead people are; he will cause you to live again.

Why should the dwellers in the dust awake and sing for joy?

They should awake and sing for joy because the dead, they will live, they will arise.

Isaiah 26:20**ULT**

²⁰ Go, my people, enter into your rooms and shut your doors behind you; hide for a little while, until the indignation has passed by.

UST

²⁰ But now, my fellow Israelites, go home and lock your doors! Hide for a short time, until Yahweh is no longer angry.

Why are the people supposed to go into their rooms and shut their doors.

They are to do this so they can hide until the indignation has passed by.

Isaiah 26:21**ULT**

²¹ For, look, Yahweh is about to come out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; the earth will uncover her bloodshed, and will no longer conceal her slain.

26:16 ^[1]

UST

²¹ Listen to this: Yahweh will come from heaven to punish all the people on the earth for the sins that they have committed. People will be able to see the blood of those who have been murdered; everyone will at last know all the crimes of murder that have been committed."

What is Yahweh about to do?

He is about to come out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity.

Isaiah 27**Isaiah 27:1****ULT**

¹ On that day Yahweh with his hard, great and fierce sword will punish Leviathan the slithering serpent, Leviathan the squirming serpent, and he will kill the monster that {is} in the sea.

UST

¹ At that time, Yahweh will punish Leviathan, the swift-moving monster, that coiling serpent that lives in the sea. Yahweh will kill it with his sharp, huge, and powerful sword.

On that day what will Yahweh do with his sword?

Yahweh will punish Leviathan the serpent, and he will kill the monster that is in the sea.

Isaiah 27:2**ULT**

² In that day: A vineyard of wine, sing of it.

UST

² At that time, Yahweh will say, "You Israelite people, who are like a fruitful vineyard, must sing!"

In that day what will Yahweh do with a vineyard of wine? (vv2-3)

He will protect it, water it every moment and guard it day and night.

Isaiah 27:3**ULT**

³ "I, Yahweh, am its protector; I water it every moment. I guard it night and day so no one will hurt it.

UST

³ I will protect you like a farmer waters his crops carefully in order that they will grow well. I will guard you day and night, in order that no one harms you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 27:4**ULT**

⁴ I am not angry, Oh, that there were briars {and} thorns! In battle I would march against them; I would burn them all together;

UST

⁴ I am no longer angry with my people; if any of your enemies try to injure you like briars and thorns injure people, I will attack them in battle; I will get rid of them completely,

What will Yahweh do if the briars and thorns don't grasp his protection and make peace with him? (vv4-5)

Yahweh will march against them and burn them altogether.

Isaiah 27:5**ULT**

⁵ unless they grasp my protection {and} make peace with me; let them make peace with me.

UST

⁵ unless they request me to protect them; I strongly invite them to make peace with me!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 27:6**ULT**

⁶ In the coming day, Jacob will take root; Israel will blossom and bud; and they will fill the surface of the ground with fruit."

UST

⁶ There will be a time when the descendants of Jacob will prosper like a plant that has good roots; they will be like trees that bud and blossom and bear a lot of fruit; what they do will bless all the people in the world.

What will Jacob and Israel do in the coming day?

Jacob will take root; Israel will blossom and bud; and they will fill the surface of the ground with fruit.

Isaiah 27:7**ULT**

⁷ Has Yahweh attacked Jacob and {Israel} as he attacked those nations who attacked them? Have Jacob and Israel been killed as in the slaughter of those nations that were killed by them?

UST

⁷ Has Yahweh punished us Israelites like he punished our enemies? Has he punished us as much as he punished them?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 27:8**ULT**

⁸ In exact measure you have contended, sending Jacob and Israel away; he drove them away with his fierce breath in the day of the east wind. ^[1]

UST

⁸ No, he has not done that, but he did punish us Israelite people and exiled us; we were taken away from our land as though we were struck by a windstorm from the east.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 27:9**ULT**

⁹ So in this way, the iniquity of Jacob will be atoned for, for this will be the full fruit of the removal of his sin: when he will make all the altar stones as chalk and crushed to pieces, and no Asherah poles or incense altars will remain standing.

UST

⁹ Yahweh did that in order to punish us for our sins and remove our guilt. As a result of our being exiled, all the altars to other gods in Israel will be demolished, and we will be forgiven for the sins that we have committed. There will be no more poles for worshiping the goddess Asherah or altars for burning incense to other gods; they will all be torn down and smashed to bits.

What will be the full fruit of Jacob turning away from his sin?

He will make all the altar stones as chalk and pulverized, and no Asherim or incense altars will remain standing.

Isaiah 27:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For the fortified city is desolate, the habitation is deserted and forsaken like the wilderness. There a calf feeds, and there he lies down and consumes its branches.

UST

¹⁰ The cities that have strong walls around them will be empty; like the desert, they will have no one living in them. The houses will be abandoned, and the streets will be full of weeds. Calves will eat grass there and lie down there; they will chew up all the leaves on the trees.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 27:11**ULT**

¹¹ When the boughs are withered, they will be broken off. Women will come {and} make fires with them, for this is not a people of understanding. Therefore their Maker will not have compassion on them, and he who made them will not be merciful to them.

UST

¹¹ The Israelite people are like dry branches on a tree; women break them off and use them to make fires under their cooking pots. Our Israelite people do not have any sense; so Yahweh, who created them, will not act mercifully toward them or be kind to them.

Why will the Maker of Israel not have compassion on them?

Because they are not a people of understanding Yahweh will not have compassion on them.

Isaiah 27:12**ULT**

¹² It will come about on that day {that} Yahweh will thresh from the Euphrates River to the Wadi of Egypt and you, the people of Israel, will be gathered together one by one.

UST

¹² However, there will be a time when Yahweh will gather them together again; he will separate them from the people who have conquered them, like people separate wheat from chaff. He will bring them back to Israel, one by one, from the land between the Euphrates River in the northeast and the brook at the border of Egypt in the southwest.

On that day how will the people of Israel be gathered?

They will be gathered one by one.

Isaiah 27:13**ULT**

¹³ On that day a great trumpet will be blown; and the perishing ones in the land of Assyria will come, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, they will worship Yahweh on the holy mountain in Jerusalem.

27:8 ^[1], many modern versions have an idea similar to .

UST

¹³ At that time, a trumpet will be blown very loudly. And those who were exiled to Assyria and Egypt and who almost died there will return to Jerusalem, to worship Yahweh on Zion, his holy hill.

Who will worship Yahweh on the holy mountain in Jerusalem?

The perishing ones in the land of Assyria and the outcasts in the land of Egypt will worship Yahweh on the holy mountain in Jerusalem.

Isaiah 28

Isaiah 28:1

ULT

¹ Woe to the proud garland crown that {is} worn by each of the drunkards of Ephraim, and to the fading flower of its glorious beauty, the garland that {is} set on the head of the lush Valley of those who are overcome with wine!

UST

¹ Terrible things will happen to the city of Samaria, the capital of Israel! It is on a hill above a fertile valley; the people who live there, who get drunk by drinking too much wine, are very proud; it is a beautiful and glorious city, but some day that beauty will disappear like a flower that wilts and dries up.

How is Ephraim characterized?

Ephraim is characterized as proud and as a drunkard.

What is happening to Ephraim's beauty?

Ephraim's beauty is fading.

Isaiah 28:2

ULT

² Behold, the Lord sends one who is mighty and strong; like a storm of hail and a destructive windstorm, like a driving rain and overflowing waters; and he will throw each garland crown down to the ground.

UST

² Listen to this: Yahweh will cause a great army to attack it. Their soldiers will be like a huge hailstorm or a very strong wind; they will be everywhere, like the water of a huge flood, and they will smash to the ground the buildings in Samaria.

To what is the Lord's mighty and strong one compared?

He is compared to a hail storm, a destroying storm, and a cloudburst of might and overwhelming.

What will the Lord's mighty and strong one do?

He will strike the earth with his hand.

Isaiah 28:3**ULT**

³ The proud garland of the drunkards of Ephraim will be trodden underfoot.

UST

³ The people of Samaria are proud, but everything that the drunks who live there think is wonderful will be trampled on by their enemies.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:4**ULT**

⁴ The fading flower of his glorious beauty, that is on the head of the rich valley, will be as the first ripe fig before the summer, that, when someone sees it, while it is yet in his hand, he gulps it down.

UST

⁴ Yes, Samaria is beautiful, set on a hill above a fertile valley, but that beauty will disappear like a flower that wilts and dries up. Whenever someone sees a good fig at the beginning of the season when figs become ripe, he quickly picks and eats it; similarly, when the enemies of Israel see all the beautiful things in Samaria, they will quickly conquer the city and take away all those things.

What will the fading flower of Ephraim's glorious beauty be likened to?

It will be as the first ripe fig before the summer, that, when someone sees it, while it is yet in his hand, he gulps it down.

Isaiah 28:5**ULT**

⁵ In that day Yahweh of hosts will become a beautiful crown and a diadem of beauty for the remainder of his people,

UST

⁵ At that time, Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, will be like a glorious wreath of flowers for us Israelite people who are still alive after being exiled.

In that day what will Yahweh be for the remainder of his people? (vv5-6)

Yahweh will be a beautiful crown and a diadem of beauty, a spirit of justice for him who sits in judgment, and strength for those who turn back their enemies at their gates.

Isaiah 28:6**ULT**

⁶ a spirit of justice for him who sits in judgment, and strength for those who turn back their enemies at their gates.

UST

⁶ He will cause our judges to want to do what is fair when they decide people's cases. He will enable the soldiers who stand at the city gates to strongly defend the city when our enemies attack it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:7**ULT**

⁷ But even these reel with wine, and stagger with strong drink. The priest and the prophet reel with strong drink, and they are swallowed up by wine. They stagger with strong drink, staggering in vision and reeling in decision.

UST

⁷ But now, our leaders stagger, and the priests and prophets also stagger because of drinking a lot of wine and other alcoholic drinks. They are not able to think right; they see visions, but they cannot understand what they mean; they are unable to decide things correctly.

Who reels with wine and staggers with strong drink?

The remainder of Yahweh's people, the priest and prophet.

What do the priest and prophet stagger and reel in?

They stagger in vision and reel in decision.

Isaiah 28:8**ULT**

⁸ Truly, all tables are covered with vomit, so that there {is} no {clean} place.

UST

⁸ All their tables are covered with their vomit; filth is everywhere.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:9**ULT**

⁹ To whom will he teach knowledge, and to whom will he explain the message? To those who are weaned from milk or to those {just} taken from the breasts?

UST

⁹ Who will he teach so that they can learn about knowledge? Who will listen to him so that he can teach lessons to them so they can learn? Does he think that we are like little children who no longer drink milk, and that we are like babies who, not long ago, were weaned?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For it is command upon command, command upon command; rule upon rule, rule upon rule; here a little, there a little.

UST

¹⁰ He continually tells us, 'Do this, do that;' first he tells us one rule, then another rule, he tells us only one line at a time."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:11**ULT**

¹¹ Indeed, with mocking lips and a foreign tongue he will speak to this people.

UST

¹¹ So now, Yahweh will need to force them to listen to Assyrians speaking to them in a language that they do not understand.

How will Yahweh speak to this people?

He will speak to them with a mocking lips and a foreign tongue.

Isaiah 28:12**ULT**

¹² In the past he said to them “This {is} the rest, give rest to him who is weary; and this {is} the refreshing,” but they would not listen.

UST

¹² Yahweh told his people long ago, “This is a place where you can rest; you are exhausted from all your travels through the desert, but you will be able to rest in this land.” But they refused to pay attention to what he said.

What happened in the past when Yahweh spoke to them?

They would not listen.

Isaiah 28:13**ULT**

¹³ So the word of Yahweh will be to them command upon command, command upon command; rule upon rule, rule upon rule; here a little, there a little; so that they may go and fall backward, and be broken, ensnared, and captured.

UST

¹³ So Yahweh continues to tell the people of Samaria, one line at a time, “Do this, do that,” first one rule and then another rule. But because of their ignoring what God said, they will be attacked and defeated; they will be wounded and snared and captured.

Now what will be the result when this people hear the word of Yahweh?

They will go and fall backward and be broken, ensnared and captured.

Isaiah 28:14**ULT**

¹⁴ So listen to the word of Yahweh, you who mock, you who rule over this people who {are} in Jerusalem.

UST

¹⁴ Listen to the word that Yahweh says, you who rule over the people of Jerusalem, you who mock and make fun of me!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:15**ULT**

¹⁵ This will happen because you said, "We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol we have reached an agreement. So when the overwhelming whip passes through, it will not reach us. For we have made a lie our refuge, and taken shelter in falsehood."

UST

¹⁵ You boast and say, "We made a promise with death to ensure that the power of death, when it passes over us, it cannot get to us. We tried to turn our lying words into a shelter in which we could hide."

What did the rulers of the people in Jerusalem say?

They said they that they had made a covenant with death and reached an agreement with Sheol that when judgment passes through it wouldn't reach them. They said they had made a lie their refuge and had hidden in falsehood.

Isaiah 28:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Therefore the Lord Yahweh says, "See, I will lay in Zion a foundation stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation. He who believes will not be ashamed."

UST

¹⁶ Therefore, Yahweh our Lord says this: "Listen to this! I am going to place in Jerusalem someone who is like a foundation stone, he is like a stone that has been tested to determine if it is solid. He will be like a valuable stone on which it will be safe to build a house; and whoever trusts in him will never be disappointed."

What will the Lord Yahweh lay in Zion?

He will lay a foundation stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation.

What happens if they believe in this foundation stone?

If they believe in this foundation stone they will not be ashamed.

Isaiah 28:17**ULT**

¹⁷ I will make justice the measuring stick, and righteousness the plumbline. Hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, and the floodwaters will overwhelm the hiding place.

UST

¹⁷ I will test you people of Jerusalem to find out if you will act justly and righteously, I will measure your character like a carpenter uses a plumb line to determine if a wall is straight and level. And then the hail will fall! And it will destroy everything you have. Your shelter will be destroyed because it is built on a foundation of lies, and the water from the storm will wash your shelter away.

What will happen to the refuge of lies and the hiding place?

Hail will sweep away the refuge of lies and the floodwaters will overwhelm the hiding place.

Isaiah 28:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Your covenant with death will be dissolved, and your agreement with Sheol will not stand. When the raging flood passes through, you will be overwhelmed by it.

UST

¹⁸ I will cancel the covenant that you made with death, and I will bring to an end the covenant you made with the place where the dead dwell. But when the vast flood comes, it will pour over you; and day after day it will pass over you.

What will happen the covenant with death and the agreement with Sheol that the rulers of the people in Jerusalem have made?

That covenant and agreement will be dissolved and when the raging flood passes through they will be overwhelmed by it.

Isaiah 28:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Whenever it passes through, it will overwhelm you, and morning by morning it will pass through and by day and night it will come. When the message is understood, it will cause terror.

UST

¹⁹ When the flood comes, it will pass through and over you like the river when it overflows its banks and causes flooding everywhere. When you finally understand the message of Yahweh, it will cause you to be terrified, not comforted. For the bed is too short to stretch oneself on, and the covering too narrow to wrap oneself in.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:20**ULT**

²⁰ For the bed is too short for a man to stretch out {on}, and the blanket too narrow for him to wrap himself {in}."

UST

²⁰ You have heard people say, "Your bed is very short; you will not be able to sleep in it; your blankets are very narrow; they will not cover you!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:21**ULT**

²¹ Yahweh will rise up as {on} Mount Perazim; he will rouse himself as in the Valley of Gibeon to do his work, his strange work, and perform his strange deed.

UST

²¹ Yahweh will come and cause you to be defeated; he will do to you like he did to the army of Philistia at Mount Perizim, and like he did to the Amorites at Gibeon Valley. What he will do will be very strange and unusual.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:22**ULT**

²² Now therefore do not mock, or your bonds will be tightened. I have heard from the Lord Yahweh of hosts, a decree of destruction on the earth.

UST

²² Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, has told me that he is going to destroy the entire land. So do not ridicule what I say anymore, because if you do that, he will punish you even more severely.

What does Isaiah say will be the consequences for mocking?

He warns them not to mock or their bonds will be tightened.

Isaiah 28:23**ULT**

²³ Pay attention and listen to my voice; be attentive and listen to my words.

UST

²³ Listen to what I say; pay attention carefully.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:24**ULT**

²⁴ Does a farmer who plows all day to sow, only plow the ground? Does he continually break up and harrow the field?

UST

²⁴ When a farmer plows some ground, does he never plant seeds? Does he continue to plow it and never plant anything?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:25**ULT**

²⁵ When he has prepared the ground, does he not scatter caraway seed, sow the cumin, put in the wheat in rows and the barley in the right place, and the spelt at its edges? ^[1]

UST

²⁵ No, he makes the ground very level, and then he plants seeds— caraway seed and cumin and wheat and barley. He plants each kind of seed in the correct manner. He does not plant one kind of seed in the way that is not right for it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:26**ULT**

²⁶ His God instructs him; he teaches him wisely.

UST

²⁶ He does that because God has taught him the correct way to do it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:27**ULT**

²⁷ Moreover, the caraway seed is not threshed with a sledge, nor is a cartwheel rolled over the cumin; but caraway is beaten with a stick, and cumin with a rod.

UST

²⁷ Moreover, the caraway seed is not threshed with a sledge, nor is a cartwheel rolled over the cumin; but caraway is beaten with a stick, and the cumin with a rod.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:28**ULT**

²⁸ Grain is ground for bread but not too finely, and though the wheels of his cart and his horses scatter it, his horses do not crush it.

UST

²⁸ And grain for baking bread is crushed easily, so the farmers do not continue to pound it for a long time. They sometimes cause their horses to pull a cart over it to thresh it, but doing that does not grind the grain.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 28:29**ULT**

²⁹ This too comes from Yahweh of hosts, {who} is wonderful in instruction {and} excellent in wisdom. 28:25 ^[1] and , because these expressions are uncertain in Hebrew.

UST

²⁹ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, gives us wonderful advice about how to do things; he gives us great wisdom. So what the farmers do is very smart, but what your leaders are doing is very stupid.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29

Isaiah 29:1

ULT

¹ Woe to Ariel, Ariel, the city {where} David encamped! Add year to year; let the festivals come round.

UST

¹ This is a message from Yahweh: Terrible things will happen to Jerusalem, the city where King David lived. You people continue to celebrate your festivals each year.

What is Ariel?

Ariel is the city where David encamped.

Isaiah 29:2

ULT

² But I will besiege Ariel, and she will be mourning and lamenting; and she will be to me like Ariel.

UST

² But I will cause you to experience a great disaster, and when that happens, people will weep and lament very much. Your city will become like an altar to me where people are burned as sacrifices.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:3

ULT

³ I will encamp against you in a circle and will lay siege against you with a palisade, and I will raise siege works against you.

UST

³ I will cause your enemies to come and camp all around your city; they will surround it by building towers and putting in place other things with which to attack you.

What will Yahweh do to Ariel? (vv3-4)

He will besiege Ariel and she will be brought down.

Isaiah 29:4**ULT**

⁴ You will be brought down and will speak from the ground; your speech will be low from the dust. Your voice will sound like a spirit that speaks from the ground, and out of the dust your speech will whisper.

UST

⁴ Then you will talk as though you were buried deep in the ground; it will sound like someone whispering from under the ground, like a ghost speaking from a grave.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:5**ULT**

⁵ The great number of your invaders will become like fine dust, and the multitude of the ruthless ones as chaff that passes away. It will happen suddenly, in an instant.

UST

⁵ But suddenly your enemies will be blown away like dust; their armies will disappear like chaff that is blown away by the wind. It will happen very suddenly:

How long will it take for Ariel to be brought down?

It will happen suddenly, in an instant.

Isaiah 29:6**ULT**

⁶ Yahweh of hosts will come to you with thunder, earthquake, great noise, {with} strong winds and violent storm, and the flames of a devouring fire.

UST

⁶ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, will come to help you with thunder and an earthquake and a very loud noise, with a strong wind and a big storm and a fire that will burn up everything.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:7**ULT**

⁷ It will be like a dream, a vision of the night: A horde of all the nations will fight against Ariel and her stronghold. They will attack her and her fortifications to press upon her.

UST

⁷ Then the armies of all the nations that will be attacking Jerusalem will quickly disappear like a dream in the night. Those who will be attacking Jerusalem will suddenly vanish.

Who will fight against Ariel and her stronghold?

A horde of all the nations will fight against Ariel.

Isaiah 29:8**ULT**

⁸ It will be like when a hungry man dreams he is eating, but when he awakes, his stomach is empty. It will be like when a thirsty man dreams that he is drinking, but he when he awakes, {he is} fainting, with his thirst not quenched. Yes, so will be the great number of nations that fights against Mount Zion.

UST

⁸ People who are asleep dream about eating food, but when they wake up, they are still hungry. People who are thirsty dream about drinking something, but when they wake up they are still thirsty. It will be like that when your enemies come to attack Mount Zion; they will dream about conquering you, but when they wake up, they will realize that they have not succeeded.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:9**ULT**

⁹ Astonish yourselves and be astonished; blind yourselves and be blind! Be drunk, but not with wine; stagger, but not with beer.

UST

⁹ You people of Jerusalem, be amazed and surprised about this! Do not believe what I have said! And continue to be blind about what Yahweh is doing. You are stupid, but it is not because you have drunk a lot of wine. You stagger, but not from drinking alcoholic drinks.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For Yahweh has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep. He has closed your eyes, the prophets, and has covered your heads, the seers.

UST

¹⁰ Because Yahweh has prevented the prophets from understanding and telling you his messages, it is as though he had made you go fast asleep.

What has Yahweh poured out on Ariel?

He has poured on them the spirit of deep sleep.

What does this pouring out of the spirit of deep sleep do to them?

It has closed the prophets and covered the seers.

Isaiah 29:11**ULT**

¹¹ All revelation has become to you as the words of a book that is sealed, which {men} might give to one who is learned, saying, "Read this." He also says, "I cannot, for it {is} sealed."

UST

¹¹ Yahweh gave me visions; but for you, they are only words on a scroll that is sealed shut. If you give it to those who can read and request they read it, they will say, "We cannot read it because the scroll is sealed."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:12**ULT**

¹² If the book is given to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

UST

¹² When you give it to others who cannot read, they will say, "We cannot read it because we do not know how to read."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:13**ULT**

¹³ The Lord said, "This people comes close to me with their mouths and honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Their honor for me is only a commandment of men that has been taught."

UST

¹³ So the Lord says, "These people pretend to worship me. They say good things to pretend to honor me, but they do not think about what I desire. When they worship me, all they do is recite rules that people have made and that they have memorized."

What is the Lord's complaint against this people?

The Lord said, "This people draws near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Their honoring me is a commandment taught by men."

Isaiah 29:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Therefore, see, I will proceed to do a marvelous thing among this people, wonder after wonder. The wisdom of their wise {men} will perish, and the understanding of their prudent {men} will disappear."

UST

¹⁴ Therefore, again I will do something to amaze these people; I will perform many miracles. And I will show that the people who tell others that they are wise are not really wise, and I will show that the people who tell others that they are intelligent are not really intelligent."

Since their hearts are far from the Lord and they don't honor him, what will the Lord do to them?

He will cause the wisdom of the wise men to perish and the understanding of the prudent men to disappear.

Isaiah 29:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Woe to those who deeply hide their plans from Yahweh, and whose deeds are in darkness. They say, "Who sees us, and who knows us?"

UST

¹⁵ Terrible things will happen to those who try to conceal from me, Yahweh, the evil things that they plan to do; they do those deeds in the darkness and they think, 'Yahweh certainly cannot see us; he cannot know what we are doing!'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:16**ULT**

¹⁶ You turn things upside down! Should the potter be considered like clay, so that the thing that is made should say about him who made it, "He did not make me," or the thing formed say about him who formed it, "He does not understand"?

UST

¹⁶ They are extremely foolish! They act as though they were the potters and I were the clay! Something that was created should certainly never say to the one who made it, 'You did not make me!' A jar should never say, 'The potter who made me did not know what he was doing!'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:17**ULT**

¹⁷ In just a little while, Lebanon will be turned into a field, and the field will become a forest.

UST

¹⁷ Soon the forests in Lebanon will become fertile fields, and abundant crops will grow in those fields, and that will happen very soon.

What is going to happen to Lebanon in just a little while?

Lebanon will be turned into a field and the field will become a forest.

Isaiah 29:18**ULT**

¹⁸ On that day the deaf will hear the words of a book, and the eyes of the blind will see out of the {deep} darkness.

UST

¹⁸ At that time, deaf people will be able to hear; they will be able to hear when someone reads from a book; and blind people will be able to see; they will be able to see things when it is gloomy and even when it is dark.

On that day what will the deaf and blind do?

The deaf will hear the words of a book and the eyes of the blind will see out of deep darkness.

Isaiah 29:19**ULT**

¹⁹ The oppressed will again rejoice in Yahweh, and the poor among men will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

UST

¹⁹ Yahweh will enable humble people to be very joyful again. Poor people will rejoice about what the Holy One of Israel has done.

What will the oppressed and the poor among men do?

They will rejoice in Yahweh the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 29:20**ULT**

²⁰ For the ruthless will cease, and the scoffer will vanish. All those who love to do evil will be eliminated,

UST

²⁰ There will be no more people who ridicule others and no more arrogant people. And those who plan to do evil things will be executed.

What will happen to those who love to do evil?

They will be eliminated.

Isaiah 29:21**ULT**

²¹ who by a word make a man out to be an offender. They lay a snare for him who seeks justice at the gate and put the righteous down with empty {lies}.

UST

²¹ Those who testify falsely in order to persuade judges to punish innocent people will vanish. Similar things will happen to those who by lying in court persuade the judges to make unjust decisions.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:22**ULT**

²² Therefore this is what Yahweh says concerning the house of Jacob—Yahweh, who redeemed Abraham, “Jacob will no longer be ashamed, nor will his face be pale.

UST

²² That is why Yahweh, who rescued Abraham, says about the people of Israel, “My people will no longer be ashamed; no longer will they show on their faces that they are ashamed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 29:23**ULT**

²³ But when he sees his children, the work of my hands, they will make my name holy. They will make holy the name of the Holy One of Jacob and they will stand in awe of the God of Israel.

UST

²³ When they see that I have blessed them by giving them many children, and all that I have done for them, they will honor the holy name of the Holy One of Israel, and they will revere me, the God to whom they, the descendants of Jacob, belong.

When will the house of Jacob honor Yahweh's name?

They will honor Yahweh's name when he sees his children in his midst, the work of Yahweh's hands.

Isaiah 29:24**ULT**

²⁴ Those who err in spirit will gain understanding, and complainers will learn knowledge.”

UST

²⁴ When that happens, those who are not able to think well will think clearly, and those who complain about what I am doing will accept what I am teaching them.”

What will happen to complainers and those who err in spirit?

The complainers will learn Knowledge and those who err in spirit will gain understanding.

Isaiah 30

Isaiah 30:1

ULT

¹ “Woe to the rebellious children,” this is Yahweh’s declaration. “They make plans, but not from me; they make alliances with other nations, but they were not directed by my Spirit, so they add sin to sin.

UST

¹ Yahweh says, “Terrible things will happen to you, my people who rebel against me. You make plans, but what you plan is not what I want. You have made an alliance with the rulers of Egypt, but you did not ask my Spirit if that was what you should do. By doing that, you have increased the number of your sins.

What did Yahweh say the rebellious children do?

He said they make plans but not from him and make webs but not by his spirit, that they may add sin to sin.

Isaiah 30:2

ULT

² They set out to go down into Egypt, but have not asked for my direction. They seek protection from Pharaoh and take refuge in the shadow of Egypt.

UST

² You went to Egypt to ask their rulers for help, without asking for my advice. You have trusted in the army of the king of Egypt to protect you; you have trusted in them like people sit in the shade to protect themselves from the sun.

Who do the rebellious children seek to protect them?

They seek protection from Pharaoh and take refuge in the shadow of Egypt.

Isaiah 30:3

ULT

³ Therefore Pharaoh’s protection will be your shame, and the refuge in Egypt’s shade, {your} humiliation,

UST

³ But the result of your trusting in the king of Egypt is that you will be disappointed and disgraced; because you trust in him, you will be humiliated.

What will Pharaoh’s protection and Egypt’s shade be to the rebellious children?

Pharaoh’s protection will be their shame and Egypt’s shade will be their humiliation.

Isaiah 30:4**ULT**

⁴ although their princes are at Zoan, and their messengers have come to Hanes.

UST

⁴ Officials from Judah have gone to the cities of Zoan and Hanes in Egypt to make treaties,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:5**ULT**

⁵ They will all be ashamed because of a people {who} cannot help them, {who} are neither help nor aid, but a shame, and even a disgrace."

UST

⁵ but all those who trust in the king of Egypt will be humiliated, because that nation will not be able to help you; the treaty that you have made requesting help from them will be useless; instead, the result will be that you will be humiliated and disgraced."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:6**ULT**

⁶ A declaration about the beasts of the Negev: Through the land of trouble and danger, of the lioness and the lion, the viper and fiery flying serpent, they carry their riches on the backs of donkeys, and their treasures on the camels' humps, to a people {who} cannot help them.

UST

⁶ Isaiah received from Yahweh this message about the animals in the southern part of Judah, the desert part: That area is one where people experience a lot of troubles and difficulties, an area where there are male and female lions and various kinds of poisonous snakes. Caravans go through that area taking donkeys and camels loaded with valuable goods. They are taking them to Egypt because they hope that the army of Egypt will protect them, but it will be useless.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:7**ULT**

⁷ For Egypt's help is worthless; therefore I have called her Rahab, who sits still.

UST

⁷ The promises made by the king of Egypt are worthless; therefore I call Egypt 'Useless Rahab, the sea monster that does nothing.'

How valuable is Egypt's help to the rebellious children?

Egypt's help is worthless.

Isaiah 30:8**ULT**

⁸ Now go, write it in their presence on a tablet, and inscribe it on a scroll, that it may be preserved for the time to come as a testimony.

UST

⁸ Yahweh told me to write on a scroll a message, in order that it would be a witness to the people of Judah that would endure forever.

Why does Yahweh want Isaiah to write it in their presence on a tablet, and inscribe it on a scroll?

Yahweh wants it to be preserved for the time to come as a testimony.

Isaiah 30:9**ULT**

⁹ For these {are} a rebellious people, lying children, children {who} will not hear the instruction of Yahweh.

UST

⁹ It would remind them that they are deceitful and always rebelling against Yahweh, and that they refuse to pay attention to what he tells them.

What do the rebellious people not hear?

They will not hear the instruction of Yahweh.

Isaiah 30:10**ULT**

¹⁰ They say to the seers, "Do not see;" and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy the truth to us; speak flattering words to us, prophesy illusions.

UST

¹⁰ They tell the people who see visions from Yahweh, "Stop seeing visions!" They tell the prophets, "Do not reveal to us what is right! Tell us pleasant things; do not tell us visions about things that are true!

What do the rebellious children want to hear?

They want to hear smooth things and deceptive prophecies.

Isaiah 30:11**ULT**

¹¹ Turn aside from the way, stray off the path; cause the Holy One of Israel to cease speaking before our face."

UST

¹¹ Stop doing what you have been doing; stop telling us what the Holy One of Israel says to us!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:12**ULT**

¹² Therefore the Holy One of Israel says, "Because you reject this word and trust in oppression and deceit and lean on it,

UST

¹² Therefore, this is what the Holy One of Israel says: "You have rejected my message, and you are relying on those who oppress and deceive others.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:13**ULT**

¹³ so this sin will be to you like a broken part ready to fall, like a bulge in a high wall whose fall will happen suddenly, in an instant."

UST

¹³ Therefore, the result of your sin of rejecting me will be that you will suddenly experience disasters; what will happen to you will be like a cracked wall that suddenly collapses on you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:14**ULT**

¹⁴ He will break it as a potter's vessel is broken; he will not spare it, so that there will not be found among its pieces a shard with which to scrape fire from the hearth, or to scoop up water out of the cistern.

UST

¹⁴ You will be smashed like a clay jar is smashed when it is dropped and shatters completely, with the result that there is not one piece big enough to sweep out cinders from a stove or to carry a little bit of water from a well.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For this is what the Lord Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel says, "In returning and resting you will be saved; in quietness and in trust will be your strength. But you were not willing.

UST

¹⁵ Yahweh, our God, the Holy One of Israel, also says this: "I will rescue you from your enemies only if you repent and trust in what I will do for you; you will be strong only if you quit worrying and trust in me. But you do not want to do that.

How does Yahweh say the rebellious children can be strong and be saved?

Yahweh says they can be saved by returning and resting, and in quietness and trust will be their strength.

Isaiah 30:16**ULT**

¹⁶ You said, 'No, for we will flee on horses,' so you will flee; and, 'We will ride upon swift {horses},' so those who pursue you will be swift.

UST

¹⁶ You said, 'No, we will escape on horses that the army of Egypt will give us!' So you will try to escape. You said, 'We will escape from the army of Assyria by riding on swift horses!' But those who pursue you will also ride swiftly.

What was the reply of the rebellious children to Yahweh?

They said, "No, we will flee on horses." and, "We will ride on swift horses."

What is Yahweh's response to the rebellious children's statement about fleeing on horses and riding on swift horses?

Yahweh responds by telling the rebellious children they will flee and that those who pursue them will be swift.

Isaiah 30:17**ULT**

¹⁷ One thousand {will flee} at the threat of one; at the threat of five you will flee until your remnant will be like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain, or like a flag on a hill."

UST

¹⁷ As a result, a thousand of you will flee when only one of them pursues you! When five of their soldiers threaten to kill you, all of you will flee. Only a few of you will be left, like a single flagpole on top of a mountain, or like one single signal flag on a hilltop."

How many did Yahweh say would flee at the threat of one?

Yahweh said one thousand would flee at the threat of one.

Isaiah 30:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Yet Yahweh is waiting to be gracious to you, therefore he is ready to show you mercy. For Yahweh {is} a God of justice; blessed {are} all those who wait for him.

UST

¹⁸ But Yahweh wants to act kindly toward you; he is great because he desires to act mercifully. Do not forget he is a God who acts justly; Yahweh is pleased with those who patiently trust in him.

What is Yahweh waiting and ready to do?

He is waiting to be gracious to the rebellious children and to have mercy on them.

What happens to all those who wait for Yahweh?

They will be blessed.

Isaiah 30:19**ULT**

¹⁹ For a people will live in Zion, in Jerusalem, and you will weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. When he hears it, he will answer you.

UST

¹⁹ You people who live in Jerusalem, some day you will not cry anymore. Yahweh will be kind to you when you call out to him for help. He will answer you as soon as he hears you call.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:20**ULT**

²⁰ {Though} Yahweh gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, even so, your teacher will not hide himself anymore, but you will see your teacher with your own eyes.

UST

²⁰ Although now Yahweh has brought poverty on you, he, your teacher, will not hide himself from you. He will teach you many things clearly.

Though Yahweh gives them the bread of adversity and the water of affliction what will their teacher not do anymore?

Their teacher will not hide himself anymore, but they will see him with their own eyes.

Isaiah 30:21**ULT**

²¹ Your ears will hear a word behind you saying, "This {is} the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

UST

²¹ And you will hear him speak to you to guide you. Right behind you he will say, "This is the road on which you should walk; walk on this road!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:22**ULT**

²² You will desecrate your carved figures overlaid with silver and your gold cast figures. You will throw them away like a menstrual rag. You will say to them, "Get out of here."

UST

²² When that happens, you will destroy all your idols that are covered with silver or gold. You will throw them away like you throw away a filthy rag, and you will say to them, "We do not need you anymore!"

What will the rebellious children do with their carved figures and cast gold figures?

They will desecrate them and throw them away.

Isaiah 30:23**ULT**

²³ He will give the rain for your seed when you sow the ground, and bread with abundance from the ground, and the crops will be abundant. In that day your cattle will graze in broad pastures.

UST

²³ If you do that, Yahweh will bless you by giving you good rain at the time that you plant your crops. You will have good harvests and plenty of big fields with grass for your cattle to eat.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:24**ULT**

²⁴ The oxen and the donkeys, who plow the ground, will eat seasoned feed that has been winnowed with a shovel and a fork.

UST

²⁴ After the wind blows away the chaff, the oxen and donkeys that pull the plow over your ground will have good grain to eat.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:25**ULT**

²⁵ On every high mountain and on every high hill, there will be flowing brooks {and} streams of waters, in the day of the great slaughter when the towers fall.

UST

²⁵ At that time, when your enemies have been slaughtered and their towers have collapsed, there will be streams flowing down every hill and mountain in Judah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:26**ULT**

²⁶ The light of the moon will be like the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be seven times brighter, like the sunlight of seven days. Yahweh will bind up the breaking of his people and heal the bruises of his wounding them.

UST

²⁶ The moon will seem to shine as brightly as the sun, and the sun will seem to shine seven times as brightly as previously. That is what it will be like when Yahweh causes the suffering of his people to cease; it will be as though he is putting bandages on their wounds and healing them.

What will Yahweh do to his people after the day of the great slaughter when the towers fall?

Yahweh will bind up the breaking of his people and heal the bruises of his wounding them.

Isaiah 30:27**ULT**

²⁷ Look, the name of Yahweh comes from a distant place, burning {with} his anger and in dense smoke. His lips are full of fury, and his tongue is like a devouring fire.

UST

²⁷ It is as though we see Yahweh coming from far away; he is extremely angry, and there are thick clouds of smoke around him. By what he says he shows that he is angry; what he says is like a devastating fire.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:28**ULT**

²⁸ His breath is like an overflowing torrent that reaches up to the middle of the neck, to sift the nations with the sieve of destruction. His breath {is} a bridle in the jaws of the peoples to cause {them} to wander away.

UST

²⁸ His breath is like a flood that covers his enemies up to their necks. He will separate the nations in order to destroy some of them; it is as though he will put horses' bridles on them so he can lead them away to destruction.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:29**ULT**

²⁹ You will have a song as in the night {when} a holy feast is observed, and gladness of heart, as when one goes with a flute to the mountain of Yahweh, to the Rock of Israel.

UST

²⁹ But his people will sing joyfully like they sing during the nights when they celebrate a holy festival. They will be very joyful, like a large group of his people are joyful when they go up to Mount Zion in Jerusalem, along with men playing flutes when they are all going there to worship Yahweh. He is like a huge rock on top of which we Israelite people are safe.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 30:30**ULT**

³⁰ Yahweh will make the splendor of his voice heard and show the motion of his arm in storming anger and flames of fire, with windstorm, rainstorm, and hailstones.

UST

³⁰ And Yahweh will enable us to hear him speaking powerfully. He will show us that he is very powerful. We will see him smash his enemies. Being very angry, he will descend with a big rainstorm and thunder and hail to punish them.

How will Yahweh manifest the splendor of his voice and show the motion of his arm?

He will manifest them in storming anger and flames of fire, with windstorm, rainstorm and hailstones.

Isaiah 30:31**ULT**

³¹ For at the voice of Yahweh, Assyria will be shattered; he will strike them with a staff.

UST

³¹ The soldiers of Assyria will be terrified when they hear the voice of Yahweh and when he strikes them with his rod.

Who will Yahweh's voice and motion of his arm be directed toward?

They will directed toward Assyria. For at the voice of Yahweh, Assyria will be shattered; he will strike them with a staff.

Isaiah 30:32**ULT**

³² Every stroke of the appointed rod that Yahweh will lay on them will be accompanied with the music of tambourines and harps as he battles and fights with them.

UST

³² And while Yahweh strikes them to punish them, his people will celebrate by playing tambourines and harps. It will be as though Yahweh will lift up his powerful hand and defeat the Assyrian army in battle.

What will accompany every stroke of the appointed rod that Yahweh will lay on him?

The music of tambourines and harps will accompany every stroke as Yahweh battles and fights with Assyria.

Isaiah 30:33**ULT**

³³ For a place of burning {was} prepared long ago. Indeed, it is prepared for the king, and God has made it deep and wide. The pile {is} ready with a fire and much wood. The breath of Yahweh, like a stream of brimstone, will set it on fire.

UST

³³ The Valley of Topheth outside Jerusalem has been prepared for a long time; it is ready for the king of Assyria; the funeral pyre for burning his body is wide and high, and it will be as though Yahweh will light the fire with his breath, which will come out like a stream of burning sulfur.

What has been prepared for the king of Assyria?

A place of burning has been prepared for the king of Assyria.

What or who will kindle the fire prepared for the king of Assyria?

The breath of Yahweh will kindle it.

Isaiah 31

Isaiah 31:1

ULT

¹ Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help {and} lean on horses, and trust in chariots (for {they are} many) and in horsemen (for they are countless). But they are not concerned about the Holy One of Israel, nor do they seek Yahweh!

UST

¹ Terrible things will happen to those who rely on Egypt to help them, trusting in their soldiers' horses and their many chariots and their many chariot drivers, instead of trusting that Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel, will help them.

Why is woe pronounced on those who go down to Egypt for help?

Woe is pronounced on them because they trust in chariots and horsemen but are not concerned about the Holy One of Israel, nor do they seek Yahweh.

Isaiah 31:2

ULT

² Yet he {is} wise, and he will bring disaster and will not retract his words. He will arise against the evil house and against the helpers of those who commit sin.

UST

² Yahweh is very wise, but he also causes people to experience disaster! And when he decides to do that, he does not change his mind! He will strike the wicked people and all those who help them.

Who will Yahweh arise against?

He will arise against the evil house and against the helpers of those who commit sin.

Isaiah 31:3**ULT**

³ Egypt {is} a man and not God, their horses flesh and not spirit. When Yahweh reaches out with his hand, both the one who helps will stumble, and the one who is helped will fall; both will perish together.

UST

³ The soldiers of Egypt that you people of Judah are relying on are humans, not God! And their horses are only horses; they are not powerful spirits! So when Yahweh raises his fist to strike the soldiers of Egypt whom you thought would help you, he will also strike you who thought that you would be helped, and you and they will stumble and fall down; all of you will die together.

What will happen to him who helps and him who is helped?

Both of them will perish together.

Isaiah 31:4**ULT**

⁴ This is what Yahweh says to me, "As a lion, even a young lion, growls over its torn prey, when a group of shepherds is called out against it, but it does not tremble at their voices, nor creep away from their sound; thus Yahweh of hosts will descend to fight on Mount Zion, on that hill.

UST

⁴ But this is what Yahweh said to me: "When a lion stands and growls over the body of a sheep that he has killed, even if a large group of shepherds comes to chase away the lion, even if they shout loudly, the lion will not be afraid and will not leave. Similarly, I, Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, will come down to fight my enemies on Mount Zion, and nothing will stop me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 31:5**ULT**

⁵ Like birds in flight, so Yahweh of hosts will protect Jerusalem; he will protect and rescue as he passes over it and preserves {it}.

UST

⁵ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, will protect Jerusalem like a mother bird hovers over the baby birds in her nest. He will defend the city and rescue it from its enemies."

What will Yahweh do for Jerusalem?

He will protect, deliver and preserve it.

Isaiah 31:6**ULT**

⁶ Return {to him} from whom you have deeply turned away, people of Israel.

UST

⁶ My people, even though you have greatly rebelled against Yahweh, return to him.

What does Isaiah tell the people of Israel to do?

He tells them to return to Yahweh from whom they have deeply turned away.

Isaiah 31:7**ULT**

⁷ For in that day each one will get rid of his idols of silver and his idols of gold that your own hands have sinfully made.

UST

⁷ When you do that, each of you will throw away the idols that you have made in sin, idols that are covered with silver and gold.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 31:8**ULT**

⁸ Assyria will fall by the sword; a sword not wielded by man will consume him. He will flee from the sword, and his young men will be forced to do hard labor.

UST

⁸ The Assyrian soldiers will be killed, but not by swords that men use. They will be destroyed by the sword of God; and those who are not killed will panic and flee. And some of them will be captured and forced to become slaves.

After Assyria falls by the sword, what will their young men be forced to do?

Assyria's young men will be forced to do hard labor.

Isaiah 31:9**ULT**

⁹ They will lose all confidence because of terror, and his princes will be afraid at the sight of Yahweh's battle flag— this is Yahweh's declaration—whose fire {is} in Zion and whose firepot {is} in Jerusalem."

UST

⁹ Even their very strong soldiers will be terrified; their leaders will abandon all hope and run away from Yahweh's power! Yahweh's presence on Mount Zion is like a fire, like a furnace that blazes in Jerusalem. This is what Yahweh says about the Assyrian army!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32**Isaiah 32:1****ULT**

¹ Look, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule in justice.

UST

¹ Listen to this! Some day there will be a righteous king, and his officials will help him to rule justly.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:2**ULT**

² Each one will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a land of weariness.

UST

² Each of them will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm. They will be like streams of water in the desert, like the shade under a huge rock in a very hot and dry land.

What will a righteous king and just princes be like?

They will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a land of weariness.

Isaiah 32:3**ULT**

³ Then the eyes of those who see will not be dim, and the ears of those who hear will hear attentively.

UST

³ When that happens, those leaders will enable people who have not understood God's truth to understand it, and they will enable those who have not paid attention to God's truth to pay attention to it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:4**ULT**

⁴ The rash will think carefully with understanding, and the stutterer will speak distinctly and with ease.

UST

⁴ Even those who act very hastily will have good sense, and those who cannot speak well will speak fluently and clearly.

What will the rash and the stutterer do when a king reigns in righteousness and princes rule with justice?

The rash will think carefully with understanding, and the stutterer will speak distinctly and with ease. The fool will no longer be called honorable, nor the deceiver be called principled.

Isaiah 32:5**ULT**

⁵ The fool will no longer {be} called honorable, nor the deceiver called principled.

UST

⁵ At that time, people who are foolish will no longer be admired, and scoundrels will no longer be respected.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:6**ULT**

⁶ For the fool speaks folly, and his heart plans evil and godless actions, and he speaks wrongly against Yahweh. He makes the hungry empty, and the thirsty he causes to lack drink.

UST

⁶ Foolish people say things that are foolish, and they plan to do evil things. Their behavior is disgraceful, and they say things about Yahweh that are false. They do not give food to those who are hungry, and they do not give water to those who are thirsty.

What does the fool do?

He speaks folly, his heart plans evil godless actions and he speaks wrongly against Yahweh.

Isaiah 32:7**ULT**

⁷ The deceiver's methods {are} evil. He devises wicked schemes to ruin the poor with lies, even when the poor say what is right.

UST

⁷ Scoundrels do things that are evil and that deceive people; they plan to do evil things; by telling lies in court they cause poor people to have trouble, even when what the poor people are requesting is fair.

What does the deceiver do?

He uses evil methods. He devises wicked schemes to ruin the poor with lies.

Isaiah 32:8**ULT**

⁸ But the honorable man makes honorable plans; and because of his honorable actions he will stand.

UST

⁸ But honorable people plan to do honorable things, and they do those honorable things, so they succeed.

What will happen to the honorable man?

The honorable man will stand because of his honorable actions.

Isaiah 32:9**ULT**

⁹ Rise up, you women who are at ease, and listen to my voice; you carefree daughters, listen to me.

UST

⁹ You women of Jerusalem who think that you are very secure and think that everything is going well, listen to what I say!

Why were the women who were at ease told to listen to Isaiah's voice? (vv9-10)

They were told to listen to Isaiah's voice because in a little more than a year their confidence would be broken, the grape harvest would fail, the ingathering would not come.

Isaiah 32:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For in a little more than a year your confidence will be broken, you carefree women, for the grape harvest will fail, the ingathering will not come.

UST

¹⁰ After one year is ended, you who now are not worried about anything will tremble, because there will be no grapes for you to harvest and no other crops to harvest.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:11**ULT**

¹¹ Tremble, you {women} who are at ease; be troubled, you confident ones; take off your fine clothes and make yourselves bare; put on sackcloth around {your} waists.

UST

¹¹ So tremble now, you women who are not worried about anything! Take off your fancy clothes and put rough sackcloth around your waists.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:12**ULT**

¹² You will wail for the pleasant fields, for the fruitful vines.

UST

¹² You will wail because you are grieving about what will happen in your fertile fields and to your fruitful grapevines,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:13**ULT**

¹³ The land of my people will be overgrown with thorns {and} briers, even in all the once joyful houses {in} the city of revelry.

UST

¹³ because only thorns and thistles will grow in your soil. Your houses where you had joyful parties and your city where you have been happy will be gone.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:14**ULT**

¹⁴ For the palace will be forsaken, the crowded city will be deserted; the hill and the watchtower will become caves forever, a joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks;

UST

¹⁴ The king's palace will be empty; there will be no people in the city that now is very noisy. Wild donkeys will walk around and flocks of sheep will eat grass in the empty forts and watchtowers.

What was going to happen to the palace and the crowded city?

The palace was going to be forsaken and the crowded city deserted.

Isaiah 32:15**ULT**

¹⁵ until the Spirit is poured on us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is considered as a forest.

UST

¹⁵ It will be like that until God pours his Spirit out on us from heaven. When that happens, the deserts will become fertile fields, and abundant crops will grow in those fertile fields.

How long will the devastation last?

It will last until the Spirit is poured out from on high and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field and the fruitful field is considered a forest.

Isaiah 32:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Then justice will reside in the wilderness; and righteousness will live in the fruitful field.

UST

¹⁶ People will act justly in those desert areas, and people will act righteously in those fertile fields.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:17**ULT**

¹⁷ The work of righteousness will be peace; and the result of righteousness, quietness and confidence forever.

UST

¹⁷ The result of their acting righteously will be that there will be peace, the land will be tranquil, and people will be secure forever.

What will be the work and result of righteousness?

The work of righteousness will be peace and the result of righteousness, quietness and confidence forever.

Isaiah 32:18**ULT**

¹⁸ My people will live in a peaceful habitation, in secure homes, and in quiet resting places.

UST

¹⁸ My people will live in their homes peacefully, and safely, and calmly, in places of rest.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:19**ULT**

¹⁹ But even if it hails and the forest is destroyed, and the city is completely annihilated,

UST

¹⁹ Even if a severe hailstorm knocks down the trees in the forest, and all the buildings in the city are blown down,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 32:20

ULT

²⁰ you who sow beside all the streams {will be} blessed, you who send out your ox and donkey to graze.

UST

²⁰ Yahweh will greatly bless you; you will plant seeds in fields alongside the streams and there will be abundant crops. Your donkeys and cattle will easily find grass to eat when you send them out into pasture.

Who is it that will be blessed?

Blessed are the ones who sow beside all streams and who send out their ox and ass to graze.

Isaiah 33

Isaiah 33:1

ULT

¹ Woe to you, destroyer who {has} not {been} destroyed! Woe to the betrayer whom they have not betrayed! When you stop destroying, you will be destroyed. When you stop betraying, they will betray you.

UST

¹ Terrible things will happen to you people of Assyria! You have destroyed others, but you have not been destroyed yet. You have betrayed others, but you have not been betrayed yet. When you stop destroying others, others will destroy you. When you stop betraying others, others will betray you.

What will happen to the destroyer and the betrayer when they stop destroying and betraying?

The destroyer will be destroyed and the betrayer will be betrayed.

Isaiah 33:2

ULT

² Yahweh, be gracious to us; we wait for you; be our arm every morning, our salvation in the time of trouble.

UST

² Yahweh, act kindly toward us, because we have patiently waited for you to help us. Enable us to be strong every day, and rescue us when we have troubles.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:3

ULT

³ At the loud noise the peoples flee; when you arise, the nations are scattered.

UST

³ Our enemies run away when they hear your voice. When you stand up and show that you are powerful, the people of all nations flee.

What happens when Yahweh arises?

The nations are scattered.

Isaiah 33:4**ULT**

⁴ Your spoil is gathered {as} the locusts gather; as locusts leap, men leap on it.

UST

⁴ And after our enemies have been defeated, we, your people, will take away all our enemies' possessions, like caterpillars and locusts strip off all the leaves of plants.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:5**ULT**

⁵ Yahweh is exalted. He lives in a high place. He will fill Zion with justice and righteousness.

UST

⁵ Yahweh is greater than anyone else, and he lives in heaven, and he will rule justly and righteously in Jerusalem.

With what will Yahweh fill Zion?

He will fill Zion with justice and righteousness.

Isaiah 33:6**ULT**

⁶ He will be the stability in your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge; the fear of Yahweh is his treasure.

UST

⁶ When that happens, he will enable you to live securely; he will fully protect your possessions, he will enable you to be wise and to know all that you need to know; and revering Yahweh will be like a valuable treasure that he will give to you.

What will Yahweh be in their times?

In their times he will be the stability, abundance of salvation and wisdom and knowledge.

Isaiah 33:7**ULT**

⁷ Look, their envoys cry in the streets; the diplomats hoping for peace weep bitterly.

UST

⁷ But now, look, our messengers are crying out in the streets; our ambassadors have gone to other countries to make peace treaties, but they will cry bitterly because they will not succeed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:8**ULT**

⁸ The highways are deserted; there are no more travelers. Covenants are broken, witnesses are despised, and mankind is not respected. ^[1]

UST

⁸ No one travels on our roads. The leaders of Assyria have broken their peace treaty with us; they despise the people who made those treaties, and they do not respect anyone.

Why did their envoys cry and the diplomats weep bitterly?

They cried and wept because the highways were deserted; there were no more travelers. Treaties were broken, witnesses were despised and cities were disrespected.

Isaiah 33:9**ULT**

⁹ The land mourns {and} withers away; Lebanon is ashamed {and} withers away; ^[2] Sharon is like a desert plain; and Bashan and Carmel shake off {their leaves}.

UST

⁹ The land of Judah is dry and barren. The cedar trees in Lebanon are drying up and decaying. The Plain of Sharon along the coast is now a desert plain. There are no more leaves on the trees in the areas of Bashan and Carmel.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:10**ULT**

¹⁰ "Now will I arise," says Yahweh; "now I will be lifted up; now I will be elevated.

UST

¹⁰ Yahweh says, "Now I will arise and show that I deserve for everyone to honor me.

What will be the result when Yahweh arises?

Yahweh will be lifted up and exalted.

Isaiah 33:11**ULT**

¹¹ You conceive chaff, and you give birth to stubble; your breath is a fire that will consume you.

UST

¹¹ You people of Assyria make plans that are as useless as chaff and straw. Your breath will become a fire that will burn you up.

What happens to those in Zion who conceive chaff, and give birth to stubble? (vv11-12)

Their breath is a fire that will consume them. The peoples will be burned to lime.

Isaiah 33:12**ULT**

¹² The peoples will be burned to lime, {as} thornbushes are cut down and are burned.

UST

¹² Your people will be burned until only ashes remain, like thornbushes are cut down and burned up.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:13**ULT**

¹³ You {who are} far away, hear what I have done; and, you {who are} near, acknowledge my might.”

UST

¹³ You people who live far away and you people who live nearby, pay attention to what I have done and realize that I am very powerful.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:14**ULT**

¹⁴ The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling has seized the godless ones. Who among us can sojourn with a raging fire? Who among us can sojourn with everlasting burnings?

UST

¹⁴ The sinners in Jerusalem will tremble because they are very afraid; godless people will be terrified. They say, “None of us can remain alive because this fire is burning everything; it is like the fire on Yahweh’s altar that will burn forever!”

What is the response of the sinners in Zion?

The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling has seized the godless ones.

Isaiah 33:15**ULT**

¹⁵ He who walks righteously and speaks honestly; who despises the gain of oppression, who shakes his hand so that it will not accept a bribe, who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed, and who shuts his eyes from looking on evil—

UST

¹⁵ Those who act honestly and say what is right, those who do not try to become rich by forcing money from people, those who do not try to get bribes, those who refuse to listen to people who are planning to murder someone, those who do not join others who urge them to do what is wrong,

Who among those in Zion can dwell with the devouring fire and the everlasting burnings?

The ones who can dwell with this fire and burning are the ones who walk righteously and speak honestly; who despise the gain of oppression, who refuse to take a bribe, who do not plot violent crime and do not look on evil.

Where will he who walks righteously and speaks honestly make his home? (vv15-16)

He who walks righteously and speaks honestly will make his home on the heights.

Isaiah 33:16**ULT**

¹⁶ this is the man who will dwell on the heights, his {place} of defense {will be} the fortress among the cliffs, his food will be given, and his water {will be} in steady supply.

UST

¹⁶ they are the people who will live safely; they will find places to be safe in the caves in the mountains. They will have plenty of food and water.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Your eyes will see the king in his beauty; they will see a land off in the distance.

UST

¹⁷ You people of Judah will see the king wearing all his beautiful robes, and you will see that he rules a land that extends far away.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Your heart will recall the terror; where {is} the scribe, where {is} he who weighed the money? Where {is} he who counted the towers?

UST

¹⁸ When you see that, you will think about when you were previously terrified, and you will say, "The officers of Assyria who counted the tax money that we were forced to pay to them have disappeared! Those men who counted our towers are gone!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:19**ULT**

¹⁹ You will no longer see the defiant people, a people of a strange language {that you} {do} not understand.

UST

¹⁹ Those arrogant people who spoke a language that we could not understand are no longer here!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:20**ULT**

²⁰ Look at Zion, the city of our feasts; your eyes will see Jerusalem as a quiet habitation, a tent {that} will not be removed, whose stakes will never be pulled up nor will any of its cords be broken.

UST

²⁰ At that time, you will see Mount Zion, the place where we celebrate our festivals; You will see that Jerusalem has become a place that is calm and safe. It will be secure, like a tent that cannot be moved because its ropes are tight and its stakes are firmly in the ground.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:21**ULT**

²¹ Instead, Yahweh in majesty {will be} with us, in a place of broad rivers {and} streams. No warship with oars will travel it, and no large ships will sail by.

UST

²¹ Yahweh will be our mighty God; he will be like a mighty river that will protect us because our enemies will not be able to cross it; no one will be able to row across it and no warships will be able to sail across it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 33:22**ULT**

²² For Yahweh {is} our judge, Yahweh {is} our lawgiver, Yahweh {is} our king; he will save us.

UST

²² Yahweh is our judge; he is the one who gives us laws, and he is our king. He will rescue us.

Who is Yahweh and what will he do?

Yahweh is our judge, our lawgiver and our king; he will save us.

Isaiah 33:23**ULT**

²³ Your riggings are slack; they cannot hold the mast in place; they cannot spread the sail; when the great spoil is divided, even the lame will drag off the spoil.

UST

²³ The ropes on our enemies' boats will hang loose, their masts will not be fastened firmly, and their sails will not be spread out. The treasures that they have seized will be divided among us, God's people, and even lame people among us will get some.

When the great spoil is divided who will be among those dragging it off?

Even the lame will drag off the spoil.

Isaiah 33:24**ULT**

²⁴ The inhabitants will not say, "I am sick;" the people who live there {will be} forgiven for {their} iniquity.

33:8 ^[1], some versions have .

33:9 ^[2] .

UST

²⁴ And the people in Jerusalem will no longer say, "We are sick," because Yahweh will forgive the sins that have been committed by the people who live there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34

Isaiah 34:1

ULT

¹ Come near, you nations, and listen; pay attention, you people! The earth and all that fills it must listen, the world, and all {things} that come from it.

UST

¹ You people of all nations, come near and listen; pay careful attention. I want the world and everything that is in it to hear what I say.

Who is supposed to come near, listen and pay attention?

The nations, the earth and all that fills it, the world and all things that come from it must come near, listen and pay attention.

Isaiah 34:2

ULT

² For Yahweh is angry with all the nations, and furious against all their armies; he has completely destroyed them, he has handed them over to the slaughter.

UST

² Yahweh is angry with the people of all nations; he is furious with all their armies. He has decided that they must be destroyed, and he will slaughter them.

Why must the nations, the earth and all that fills it, the world and all things that come from it come near, listen and pay attention?

They must do this because Yahweh is angry with all the nations and furious against all their armies.

What has Yahweh done to the nations and their armies?

He has completely destroyed them. He has delivered them to the slaughter.

Isaiah 34:3**ULT**

³ The bodies of their dead will be thrown out. The stench of the dead bodies will be everywhere; and the mountains will soak up their blood.

UST

³ Their corpses will not be buried, and as a result their bodies will stink, and the mountains will collapse because of their blood.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34:4**ULT**

⁴ All the stars of the sky will fade away, and the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; and all their stars will fade away, as the leaf fades from off the vine, and as the overripe figs from the fig tree.

UST

⁴ The sky will disappear like a scroll that is rolled up and thrown away. Stars will fall from the sky like withered leaves fall from grapevines, or like shriveled figs fall from fig trees.

What will happen to the stars and sky?

All the stars of the sky will fade away and the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; and all their stars will fade away.

Isaiah 34:5**ULT**

⁵ For when my sword will have drunk its fill in heaven; look, it will now come down on Edom, on the people I am setting apart for destruction.

UST

⁵ When Yahweh has finished his work of destroying objects in the sky, he will punish the people of Edom, the people group that he has said must be destroyed.

What will Yahweh do after his sword has drunk its fill in heaven?

Then his sword will come down on Edom and on the people of his exclusive belonging in judgment.

Isaiah 34:6**ULT**

⁶ The sword of Yahweh is dripping with blood and covered with fat, dripping with the blood of lambs and goats, covered with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For Yahweh has a sacrifice in Bozrah and a great slaughter in the land of Edom.

UST

⁶ It is as though Yahweh will have a sword that is covered with blood and fat— the blood of lambs and goats and the fat of the kidneys of rams to be sacrificed. It is as though Yahweh will offer a sacrifice in Bozrah and kill many people in other cities in Edom.

What does Yahweh have in Bozrah and Edom?

Yahweh has a great sacrifice in Bozrah and a great slaughter in the land of Edom.

Isaiah 34:7**ULT**

⁷ Wild oxen will fall with them, and young bulls with the older ones. Their land will be drunk with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness.

UST

⁷ Even wild oxen will be killed, as well as young calves and big bulls. The ground will be soaked with blood, and the dirt will be covered with the fat of those animals.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34:8**ULT**

⁸ For {it will be} a day of vengeance for Yahweh and a year when he will pay them back for the cause of Zion.

UST

⁸ That will be the time when Yahweh gets revenge for what those people did to the people of Judah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34:9**ULT**

⁹ The streams of Edom will be turned into pitch, her dust into sulfur, and her land will become burning pitch.

UST

⁹ The streams in Edom will be full of burning pitch, and the ground will be covered with burning sulfur and burning pitch.

What will happen to the land of Edom? (vv9-10)

Her streams will be turned to pitch and her dust into brimstone. She will become burning pitch. It will be a wasteland; no one will pass through it.

Isaiah 34:10**ULT**

¹⁰ It will burn night and day; its smoke will rise forever; from generation to generation it will be a wasteland; no one will pass through it forever and ever.

UST

¹⁰ Yahweh will never finish punishing Edom with fire; the smoke will rise forever. No one will ever live in that land, and no one will even travel through it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34:11**ULT**

¹¹ But wild birds and animals will live there; the owl and the raven will make their nest in it. He will stretch over it the measuring line of ruin and the plumbline of destruction.

UST

¹¹ Ravens and various kinds of owls and small animals will live there. Yahweh will measure that land carefully; he will measure it to to decide where to cause chaos and destruction.

In general what will live in Edom?

Wild birds and animals will live in Edom.

Isaiah 34:12**ULT**

¹² Her nobles will have nothing left to call a kingdom, and all her princes {will be} nothing.

UST

¹² There will be no more princes; the people who have authority will have no kingdom to rule; the princes will disappear.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34:13**ULT**

¹³ Thorns will overgrow her palaces, nettles and thistles her fortresses. It will be a habitation of jackals, a place for ostriches.

UST

¹³ The deserted palaces and fortified buildings will be full of thorns and thistles. The ruins will be places for jackals and ostriches to live.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34:14**ULT**

¹⁴ The wild animals and the hyenas will meet there, and the wild goats will cry to one another. Nocturnal animals will settle there and find for themselves a place of rest.

UST

¹⁴ Animals that live in the desert and hyenas will be there, and wild goats will bleat to each other. There will also be creatures that roam around at night and rest there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Owls will make nests, lay and hatch their {eggs}, hatch and protect their young. Yes, there hawks will gather, each one with its mate.

UST

¹⁵ Owls will make their nests there and lay their eggs in the nests; and when the eggs hatch, the mother birds will cover them with their wings. There will also be hawks there, each with its mate.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Search through the scroll of Yahweh; not one of these will be missing. None will lack for a mate; for his mouth has commanded it, and his spirit has gathered them.

UST

¹⁶ If you read what is written in the book that contains messages from Yahweh, you will find out what he will do to Edom. All of those animals and birds will be there, and each one will have a mate, because that is what Yahweh has promised, and his spirit will cause them all to gather there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 34:17**ULT**

¹⁷ He has cast lots for their places, and his hand has measured it out for them by a cord. They will possess it forever; from generation to generation they will live there.

UST

¹⁷ He has decided what parts of the land of Edom each will live in, and those are the places where each bird or animal will live. Their descendants will possess those areas forever, throughout all generations.

How long will the birds and animals possess Edom?

They will possess it for ever; from generation to generation they will live there.

Isaiah 35**Isaiah 35:1****ULT**

¹ The wilderness and the Arabah will be glad; and the desert will rejoice and blossom. Like the rose,

UST

¹ Some day, it will be as though the desert and other very dry areas are glad; the desert will rejoice and flowers will blossom. Like the rose,

What will happen to the desert?

It will rejoice and blossom like the rose.

Isaiah 35:2**ULT**

² it will blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing; the glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of Yahweh, the splendor of our God.

UST

² the desert will produce flowers abundantly; it will be as though everything is rejoicing and singing! The deserts will become as beautiful as the trees in Lebanon, as fertile as the plains of the Sharon and the area of Carmel. There people will see the glory of Yahweh; they will see that he is magnificent.

What will be given to the desert?

The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon.

What will the wilderness, the Arabah and the desert see?

They will see the glory of Yahweh, the splendor of our God.

Isaiah 35:3**ULT**

³ Strengthen the weak hands, and steady the knees that shake.

UST

³ So encourage those who are tired and weak.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 35:4**ULT**

⁴ Say to those {with a} fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Look, your God will come {with} vengeance, {with} the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

UST

⁴ Say to those who are afraid, "Be strong and do not be afraid, because our God is going to come to get revenge on his enemies; he will pay them back for what they have done, and he will rescue you."

Why should those with a fearful heart be strong and not fear?

Because their God is coming with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save them.

Isaiah 35:5**ULT**

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind will see, and the ears of the deaf will hear.

UST

⁵ When he does that, he will enable blind people to see and enable deaf people to hear.

What are some of the things that will happen when their God comes? (vv5-7)

The blind will see. The dead will hear. The lame man will leap. The mute will sing. There will be water in the Arabah and streams in the wilderness. The burning sand will become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water. There will be reeds and rushes where jackals once lay.

Isaiah 35:6**ULT**

⁶ Then the lame man will leap like a deer, and the mute tongue will sing, for water breaks out in the Arabah, and streams in the wilderness.

UST

⁶ Lame people will leap like deer, and those who have been unable to speak will sing joyfully. Water will gush out from springs in the desert, and streams will flow in the desert.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 35:7**ULT**

⁷ The burning sand will become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the habitation of jackals, where they once lay, {will be} grass with reeds and rushes.

UST

⁷ The very hot and dry ground will become a pool of water, and springs will provide water for the dry land. Grass and reeds and papyrus will grow in places where the jackals lived previously.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 35:8**ULT**

⁸ A highway will be there called The Holy Way. The unclean will not travel it. But it will be for him who walks in it. No fool will go on it.

UST

⁸ There will be a highway through that land; it will be called 'the Holy Highway.' People who are not acceptable to God will not walk on that road; it will be only for those who conduct their lives as God wants them to, and no wicked fools will walk on that road.

What will be the name of the highway that will appear at that time?

A highway will be there called The Way of Holiness.

Who will and will not be on the highway? (vv8-9)

The unclean will not travel it and no fool will go on it. No lion or ferocious beast will be on it. The highway will be for him who walks in the way of holiness. The redeemed will walk there.

Isaiah 35:9**ULT**

⁹ No lion will be there, no ferocious beast will be on it; they will not be found there, but the redeemed will walk there.

UST

⁹ There will not be any lions there or any other dangerous animals along that road. Only those whom Yahweh has set free will walk on it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 35:10

ULT

¹⁰ The ransomed of Yahweh will return and come with singing to Zion, and everlasting joy will be on their heads; gladness and joy will overtake them; sorrow and sighing will flee away.

UST

¹⁰ Those whom Yahweh has freed will return to Jerusalem; they will sing as they enter the city, and they will be extremely joyful forever. No longer will they be sad or mourn; they will be completely joyful and glad.

What will happen to the ransomed of Yahweh when they return?

Everlasting joy will be on their heads; gladness and joy will overtake them; sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Isaiah 36

Isaiah 36:1

ULT

¹ In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib, king of Assyria, attacked all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them.

UST

¹ When King Hezekiah had been ruling Judah for almost fourteen years, King Sennacherib of Assyria came with his army to attack the cities in Judah that had walls around them. They did not conquer Jerusalem, but they conquered all the other cities.

What happened in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah?

Sennacherib, king of Assyria, marched against all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them.

Isaiah 36:2

ULT

² Then the king of Assyria sent the chief commander from Lachish to Jerusalem to King Hezekiah with a great army. He approached the conduit of the upper pool, on the highway to the launderers' field, and stood by it.

UST

² Then the king of Assyria sent a large army with some of his important officials from the city of Lachish to persuade King Hezekiah to surrender. When they arrived at Jerusalem, they stood alongside the aqueduct in which water flows into the upper pool into Jerusalem, near the road to the field where the women wash clothes.

Who did the king of Assyria send from Lachish to Jerusalem to Hezekiah?

The king of Assyria sent the Rabshakeh.

Where did the Rabshakeh stop?

He stopped at the conduit of the upper pool, on the highway to the washers field.

Isaiah 36:3**ULT**

³ The Israelite officials who went out of the city to talk with them were Hilkiyah's son Eliakim, the palace administrator, Shebna the king's secretary, and Asaph's son Joah, who wrote down the government decisions.

UST

³ The Israelite officials who went out of the city to talk with them were Hilkiyah's son Eliakim, the palace administrator, Shebna the king's secretary, and Asaph's son Joah, who wrote down the government decisions.

Who went out to meet the Rabshakeh?

Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah, Shebna the scribe and Joah the recorder, the son of Asaph went out to meet the Rabshakeh.

Isaiah 36:4**ULT**

⁴ The chief commander said to them, "Tell Hezekiah that the great king, the king of Assyria, says, 'What is the source of your confidence?'"

UST

⁴ Then one of Sennacherib's important officials told them to take a message to Hezekiah from the king of Assyria, the great king. In the message, the king said to the people of Jerusalem, "What are you trusting in to rescue you?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:5**ULT**

⁵ You speak only useless words, saying there is counsel and strength for war. Now in whom are you trusting? Who has given you courage to rebel against me?"

UST

⁵ You say that you have weapons to fight us and that some other nation has promised to help you, but that is only talk. Who do you think will help you to rebel against my soldiers from Assyria?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:6**ULT**

⁶ Look, you are trusting in Egypt, that splintered reed that you use as a walking staff, but if a man leans on it, it will stick into his hand and pierce it. That is what Pharaoh king of Egypt {is} to anyone who trusts in him.

UST

⁶ Listen to me! You are relying on the army of Egypt. But that is like when a man tries to walk while leaning on a broken reed for a walking stick. But it would pierce the hand of anyone who would lean on it! That is what the king of Egypt is like for anyone who relies on him for help.

Who did the Rabshakeh say that Pharaoh, king of Egypt, was to anyone who trusted in him?

The Rabshakeh said the Pharaoh was a splintered reed that if used as a walking stick would pierce your hand.

Isaiah 36:7**ULT**

⁷ But if you say to me, "We are trusting in Yahweh our God," {is} not he the one whose high places and altars Hezekiah has taken away, and has said to Judah and to Jerusalem, "You must worship before this altar in Jerusalem"?

UST

⁷ But perhaps you will say to me that you are relying on Yahweh your God to help you. In that case, I would answer that Yahweh is the one whom Hezekiah insulted by tearing down his high places and altars and forcing everyone in Jerusalem and other places in Judah to worship only in front of the altar in Jerusalem."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:8**ULT**

⁸ Now therefore, I want to make you a good offer from my master the king of Assyria. I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able to find riders for them.

UST

⁸ The Assyrian official talking in front of the city continued: "So I suggest that you make a deal with my master, the king of Assyria. I will give you two thousand horses, but I do not think that you can find two thousand of your own men who can ride on them!

What did the Rabshakeh say the king of Assyria would do if Hezekiah would make an agreement with the king of Assyria?

The Rabshakeh said the king of Assyria would give Hezekiah two thousand horses.

Isaiah 36:9**ULT**

⁹ How could you resist even one captain of the least of my master's servants? You have put your trust in Egypt for chariots and horsemen!

UST

⁹ You are expecting the king of Egypt to send chariots and men riding horses to assist you. But they certainly would not be able to resist even the most insignificant official in the army of Assyria!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Now then, have I traveled up here without Yahweh to fight against this land and destroy it? Yahweh said to me, "Attack this land and destroy it.""

UST

¹⁰ Furthermore, do not think that we have come here to attack and destroy this land without Yahweh's orders! It is Yahweh himself who told us to come here and destroy this land!"

Who did the Rabshakeh say had told him to march against Judah and destroy it?

The Rabshakeh said that Yahweh had told him to march against Judah and destroy it.

Isaiah 36:11**ULT**

¹¹ Then Eliakim son of Hilkiyah, and Shebna, and Joah said to the chief commander, "Please speak to your servants in the Aramean language, Aramaic, for we understand {it}. Do not speak with us in the language of Judah in the ears of the people who are on the wall."

UST

¹¹ Then Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah said to the official from Assyria, "Please speak to us in your Aramaic language, because we understand it. Do not speak to us in our Hebrew language, because the people who are standing on the wall will understand it and become frightened."

Why did Eliakim, Shebna and Joah ask the Rabshakeh to speak to them in Aramaic? (vv11-12)

They did not want the people on the wall to hear and understand what was being said.

Isaiah 36:12**ULT**

¹² But the chief commander said, "Has my master sent me to your master and to you to speak these words? Has he not sent me to the men who sit on the wall, who will have to eat their own dung and drink their own urine with you?"

UST

¹² But the official replied, "Do you think that my master sent me to say these things only to you, and not to the people standing on the wall? If you reject this message, the people in this city will soon need to eat their own dung and drink their own urine, just as you will, because you will have nothing else to eat. "

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:13**ULT**

¹³ Then the chief commander stood and shouted in a loud voice in the Jews' language, saying, "Listen to the words of the great king, the king of Assyria.

UST

¹³ Then the official stood up and shouted in the Hebrew language to the people sitting on the wall. He said, "Listen to this message from the great king, the king of Assyria!

How did the Rabshakeh respond to the request for him to speak to Eliakim, Shebna and Joah in Aramaic?

He responded by standing and shouting in a loud voice in the Jew's language.

Briefly what did the Rabshakeh say were the words of the king of Assyria with regards to Hezekiah? (vv13-15)

He said not to let Hezekiah deceive them because Hezekiah wouldn't be able to rescue them and he said not to trust in Yahweh.

Isaiah 36:14**ULT**

¹⁴ The king says, 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to rescue you.

UST

¹⁴ He says, 'Do not allow Hezekiah to deceive you! He will not be able to rescue you!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Do not let Hezekiah make you trust in Yahweh, saying, “Yahweh will surely rescue us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.”

UST

¹⁵ Do not allow him to persuade you to trust in Yahweh, saying that Yahweh will rescue you, and that the army of the king of Assyria will never capture this city!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Do not listen to Hezekiah, for this is what the king of Assyria says: ‘Make {peace} with me and come out to me. Then every one of you will eat from his own vine and from his own fig tree, and drink from the water in his own cistern.

UST

¹⁶ Do not pay attention to what Hezekiah says! This is what the king of Assyria says: “Come out of the city and surrender to me. If you do that, I will arrange for each of you to drink the wine from your own grapevines and to eat figs from your own trees, and to drink water from your own well.

What did the king of Assyria say would happen if the Jews would make peace with him and come out to him? (vv16-17)

He said the Jews would eat from their own vine and from their own fig tree, and drink water from their own cistern, until he would come and take the Jews away to a land like their own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards.

Isaiah 36:17**ULT**

¹⁷ You will do this until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards.’

UST

¹⁷ You will be able to do that until we come and take you to a land that is like your land—a land where there is grain to make bread and vineyards to produce grapes for making new wine and, where we make plenty of bread.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Do not let Hezekiah mislead you, saying, 'Yahweh will rescue us.' Has any of the gods of the peoples rescued them from the hand of the king of Assyria?

UST

¹⁸ Do not allow Hezekiah to trick you by saying, "Yahweh will rescue us." The gods that people of other nations worship have never rescued any of them from the power of the king of Assyria!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Where {are} the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where {are} the gods of Sepharvaim? Have they rescued Samaria from my power?

UST

¹⁹ Why were the gods of Hamath and Arpad cities, and the gods of Sepharvaim unable to rescue Samaria from my power?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:20**ULT**

²⁰ Among all the gods of these lands, is there any god who has rescued his land from my power, as if Yahweh could save Jerusalem from my power?"

UST

²⁰ No, no god of any nation which our armies have attacked has been able to rescue their people from me. So why do you think that Yahweh will rescue you people of Jerusalem from my power?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 36:21**ULT**

²¹ But the people remained silent and did not respond, for the king's order was, "Do not answer him."

UST

²¹ But the Hebrew soldiers who were listening were silent. No one said anything, because King Hezekiah had commanded them, "When the official from Assyria talks to you, do not answer him."

What was the response to the Rabshekah's speech?

They remained silent and did not respond, for the king's order was, "Do not answer him".

Isaiah 36:22**ULT**

²² Then Eliakim son of Hilkiah, who {was} over the household, Shebna the scribe, and Joah son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with {their} clothes torn, and reported to him the words of the chief commander.

UST

²² Then Eliakim and Shebna and Joah returned to Hezekiah with their clothes torn because they were extremely distressed. They told him what the official from Assyria had said.

What did Eliakim, Shebna and Joah do after the Rabshekah's speech?

They came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn and reported to Hezekiah the words of Rabshakeh.

Isaiah 37

Isaiah 37:1

ULT

¹ It came about that when King Hezekiah heard {their report}, he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of Yahweh.

UST

¹ When King Hezekiah heard what they reported, he tore his clothes and put on clothes made of rough sackcloth because he was very distressed. Then he went into the temple of Yahweh and prayed.

What did Hezekiah do when he heard the report from Eliakim, Shebna and Joah? (vv1-2)

Hezekiah tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth and went into the house of Yahweh. He also sent Eliakim, Shebna and the elders of the priests to Isaiah the prophet.

Isaiah 37:2

ULT

² He sent Eliakim, who {was} over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, all covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah son of Amoz, the prophet.

UST

² Then he sent Eliakim, Shebna, and the older priests, who were also wearing clothes made of rough sackcloth, to talk to Isaiah the prophet, son of Amoz.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:3

ULT

³ They said to him, "Hezekiah says, 'This day {is} a day of distress, rebuke, and disgrace, like when a child is ready to be born, but the mother {has} no strength to give birth to her child.

UST

³ They told him, "Say this to Isaiah: 'King Hezekiah says that this is a day when we have great distress. Other nations are insulting and shaming us. We are like a woman who is about to give birth to a baby, but she does not have the strength that she needs to do it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:4**ULT**

⁴ It may be Yahweh your God will hear the words of the chief commander, whom the king of Assyria his master has sent to defy the living God, and will rebuke the words which Yahweh your God has heard. Now lift up {your} prayer for the remnant that is still here.”

UST

⁴ But perhaps Yahweh our God has heard what the official from Assyria said. Perhaps God knows that the king of Assyria has sent his official to insult him, the all-powerful God. Perhaps Yahweh will punish the king of Assyria for what he said. And I, Hezekiah, request that you pray for the few of us who are still alive here in Jerusalem.”

What did Hezekiah ask Isaiah to do?

He asked Isaiah to pray to Yahweh for the remnant that was still to be found there.

Isaiah 37:5**ULT**

⁵ So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah,

UST

⁵ After those men gave Isaiah that message,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:6**ULT**

⁶ and Isaiah said to them, “Say to your master: ‘Yahweh says, “Do not be afraid of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have insulted me.

UST

⁶ he told them to say to the king that Yahweh says: “Those lackeys from the king of Assyria have said evil things about me. But do not let them worry you.

What message did Isaiah give to Hezekiah’s servants to take back to Hezekiah? (vv6-7)

Isaiah’s message to Hezekiah was to not fear the words of the king of Assyria’s servant, the Rabshakeh. Yahweh was going to put a spirit in The king of Assyria, and he would hear a report and go back to his own land and would be killed by the sword there.

Isaiah 37:7**ULT**

⁷ Look, I will put a spirit in him, and he will hear a certain report and go back to his own land. I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.'""

UST

⁷ Listen to this: I will make Sennacherib hear some news from his own country that will worry him very much. So he will go back there, and I will make other men to assassinate him with their swords."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:8**ULT**

⁸ Then the chief commander returned and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah, for he had heard that the king had gone away from Lachish.

UST

⁸ The official from Assyria learned that his king and the army of Assyria had left the city of Lachish and were now attacking Libnah, a nearby city. So the official left Jerusalem and went to Libnah to report to the king what had happened in Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:9**ULT**

⁹ Then Sennacherib heard that Tirhakah king of Cush and Egypt had mobilized to fight against him, so he sent messengers again to Hezekiah with a message:

UST

⁹ Soon after that, King Sennacherib received a report that King Tirhakah of Ethiopia was leading his army to attack them. So he sent other messengers to Hezekiah with a letter. In the letter he wrote this to Hezekiah:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:10**ULT**

¹⁰ "Say to Hezekiah, king of Judah, 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'"

UST

¹⁰ "Do not allow your god, on whom you are relying, to deceive you by promising that he will keep my army from capturing Jerusalem."

After the king of Assyria heard that Tirhakah, king of Ethiopia, was coming out to fight against him, what message did the king of Assyria send to Hezekiah?

The king of Assyria told Hezekiah in a letter not to let God deceive Hezekiah by saying, Jerusalem would not be given over into the hand of the king of Assyria.

Isaiah 37:11**ULT**

¹¹ See, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by destroying them completely. So will you be rescued?

UST

¹¹ You have certainly heard what the armies of the kings of Assyria before me did to all the other countries; our armies destroyed them completely. So you really do not think that you will escape from me, do you?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:12**ULT**

¹² Have the gods of the nations rescued them, the nations that my fathers destroyed: Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the people of Eden in Tel Assar?

UST

¹² Did the gods of those nations rescue them? Did they rescue the region of Gozan, or the cities of Haran and Rezeph in northern Aram, or the people of the region of Eden in the city of Tel Assar?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:13**ULT**

¹³ Where {is} the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, the king of the cities of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah?"

UST

¹³ What happened to the king of Hamath and the king of Arpad? What happened to the kings of the cities of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivvah? Did their gods rescue them?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Hezekiah received this letter from the hand of the messengers and read it. Then he went up to the house of Yahweh and spread it before him.

UST

¹⁴ Hezekiah received the letter that the messengers gave him, and he read it. Then he went up to the temple and spread out the letter in front of Yahweh.

**What did Hezekiah do after he received the letter from the king of Assyria and read it?
(vv14-15)**

Hezekiah went up to the house of Yahweh and spread the letter out and prayed to Yahweh.

Isaiah 37:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Hezekiah prayed to Yahweh:

UST

¹⁵ Then Hezekiah prayed this:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:16**ULT**

¹⁶ “Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, you who sit above the cherubim, you are God alone over all the kingdoms of the earth. You made the heavens and the earth.

UST

¹⁶ “Yahweh, Commander of the angel armies, the God to whom we Israelites belong, you are seated on your throne above the statues of the cherubim, above the sacred chest. Only you are truly God. You rule all the kingdoms on this earth. You are the one who created everything on the earth and in the sky.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Turn your ear, Yahweh, and listen. Open your eyes, Yahweh, and see, and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God.

UST

¹⁷ So, Yahweh, please listen to what I am saying, and look at what is happening! And listen to what Sennacherib has said to insult you, the all-powerful God!

What did Hezekiah pray for Yahweh to do?

First, Hezekiah asked Yahweh to hear and listen and to open his eyes and see all the words in Sennacherib's letter. Second, Hezekiah asked Yahweh to save Jerusalem from Sennacherib's hand.

Isaiah 37:18**ULT**

¹⁸ It is true, Yahweh, the kings of Assyria have destroyed all the nations and their lands.

UST

¹⁸ Yahweh, it is true that the armies of the kings of Assyria have completely destroyed many nations and ruined their land.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:19**ULT**

¹⁹ They have put their gods into the fire, for they {were} not gods but the work of men's hands, just wood and stone. So the Assyrians have destroyed them.

UST

¹⁹ And they have thrown all the idols of those nations into fires and burned them. But they were not really gods. They were only idols made of wood and stone, and that is why they were able to be destroyed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:20**ULT**

²⁰ So now, Yahweh our God, save us from his power, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you {are} Yahweh alone."

UST

²⁰ So now, Yahweh our God, please rescue us from the power of the king of Assyria, in order that the people in all the kingdoms of the world may know that you, Yahweh, are the only one who is truly God."

What did Hezekiah pray for Yahweh to do?

First, Hezekiah asked Yahweh to hear and listen and to open his eyes and see all the words in Sennacherib's letter. Second, Hezekiah asked Yahweh to save Jerusalem from Sennacherib's hand.

What reason did Hezekiah give as motivation for God to save Jerusalem from Sennacherib?

Hezekiah wanted Yahweh to save Jerusalem from Sennacherib so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that Yahweh alone is God.

Isaiah 37:21**ULT**

²¹ Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent a message to Hezekiah, saying, "Yahweh, the God of Israel says, 'Because you have prayed to me concerning Sennacherib king of Assyria,

UST

²¹ Then Isaiah sent a message to tell Hezekiah that Yahweh, whom the Israelites worshiped, said this to him: "Because you prayed about what King Sennacherib of Assyria said,

How did Yahweh respond to Hezekiah's prayer?

Yahweh responded by sending a message to Hezekiah through Isaiah.

Isaiah 37:22**ULT**

²² this {is} the word that Yahweh has spoken about him: "The virgin daughter of Zion despises you and laughs you to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem shakes {her} head at you.

UST

²² this is what I say to him: 'The people of Jerusalem despise you and make fun of you. They will wag their heads to mock you while you flee from here.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:23**ULT**

²³ Whom have you defied and insulted? Against whom have you exalted {your} voice and lifted up your eyes in pride? Against the Holy One of Israel.

UST

²³ Who do you think you have been despising and ridiculing? Who do you think you were shouting at? Who do you think you were looking at very proudly? It was I, the Holy One whom the Israelites worship!

In Yahweh's message to Hezekiah what did Yahweh say Sennacherib had done wrong?

Yahweh said Sennacherib had defied, blasphemed, exalted his voice and lifted up his eyes against the Holy one of Israel.

Isaiah 37:24**ULT**

²⁴ By your servants you have defied the Lord and have said, 'With the multitude of my chariots I have gone up to the heights of the mountains, to the highest elevations of Lebanon. I will cut down its tall cedars and choice cypress trees there, and I will enter into its farthest high places, its most fruitful forest.

UST

²⁴ The messengers whom you sent made fun of me. You said, "With my many chariots I have gone to the highest mountains, to the highest mountains in Lebanon. We have cut down its tallest cedar trees and its nicest pine trees. We have been to the most distant peaks and to its densest forests.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:25**ULT**

²⁵ I have dug wells and drunk water; ^[1] I dried up all the rivers of Egypt under the soles of my feet.'

UST

²⁵ We have dug wells in many countries and drunk water from them. And by marching through the streams of Egypt, we dried them all up!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:26**ULT**

²⁶ Have you not heard how I determined it long ago and worked it out in ancient times? Now I am bringing it to pass. You are here to reduce impregnable cities {into} heaps of ruins.

UST

²⁶ But I reply to him, 'Have you never heard that long ago I determined those things; I planned it long ago, and now I have been causing it to occur. I planned that your army would destroy cities and cause them to become piles of rubble.

What did Yahweh determine long ago and work out in ancient times?

He determined and worked out that Sennacherib would reduce impregnable cities into heaps of ruins.

Isaiah 37:27**ULT**

²⁷ Their inhabitants, of little strength, are shattered and ashamed. They are plants in the field, green grass, the grass on the roof or in the field, before the east wind.

UST

²⁷ The people in those cities have no power, and as a result they are dismayed and discouraged. They are as frail as grass and plants in the fields, as frail as grass that grows on the roofs of houses and is scorched by the hot east wind.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:28**ULT**

²⁸ But I know your sitting down, your going out, your coming in, and your raging against me.

UST

²⁸ But I know everything about you; I know when you are in your house and when you go outside; I also know that you are raging against me.

What else did Yahweh know about Sennacherib?

Yahweh knew when Sennacherib sat down, went out, came in, and his raging against Yahweh.

Isaiah 37:29**ULT**

²⁹ Because of your raging against me, and because your arrogance has reached my ears, I will put my hook in your nose, and my bit in your mouth; I will turn you back the way you came."

UST

²⁹ So because you have raged against me and because I have heard you speak very proudly, it will be as though I will put a hook in your nose and an iron bit in your mouth in order that I can take you where I wish, and I will force you to return to your own country, on the same road on which you came here, without conquering Jerusalem."

What was the result of Sennacherib's raging against Yahweh?

Yahweh turned Sennacherib back the way he came.

Isaiah 37:30**ULT**

³⁰ This {will be} the sign for you: This year you will eat what grows wild, and in the second year what grows from that. But in the third year you must plant and harvest, plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

UST

³⁰ "This will prove to you, Hezekiah that it is I, Yahweh, who will make all this happen: This year, you will eat only the crops that grow by themselves, and next year the same thing will happen. But in the third year you will plant crops and harvest them; you will take care of your vineyards and eat the grapes.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:31**ULT**

³¹ The remnant of the house of Judah that survives will again take root and bear fruit.

UST

³¹ You people who are still here in Judah, will be strong and prosper again.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:32**ULT**

³² For from Jerusalem a remnant will come out; from Mount Zion survivors will come. The zeal of Yahweh of hosts will do this.”

UST

³² A small number of my people will survive, and they will spread out from Jerusalem. That will happen because Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, is desiring very much to accomplish it.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:33**ULT**

³³ Therefore Yahweh says this about the king of Assyria: “He will not come into this city and he will not shoot an arrow here. He will not come before it with shield or build up a siege ramp against it.

UST

³³ “This is what Yahweh says about the king of Assyria: ‘His armies will not enter Jerusalem; they will not even shoot a single arrow into it. His soldiers will not bring one shield up to Jerusalem, and they will not build high mounds of dirt against the walls of the city to enable them to attack the city.

What did Yahweh say about the king of Assyria concerning Jerusalem? (vv33-34)

Yahweh said the king of Assyria would not enter Jerusalem or shoot an arrow there and that he would not confront it with a shield or build siege works against it.

Isaiah 37:34**ULT**

³⁴ The way by which he came will be the same way he will leave; he will not enter this city—this is Yahweh's declaration.

UST

³⁴ Instead, their king will return to his own country on the same road on which he came here. He will not enter this city! That will happen because I, Yahweh, have said it!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:35**ULT**

³⁵ For I will defend this city and rescue it, for my own sake and for David my servant's sake."

UST

³⁵ For the sake of my own reputation and because of what I promised King David, who served me well, I will defend this city and prevent it from being destroyed."

What reason did Yahweh give for defending and saving Jerusalem?

He said he would defend and save Jerusalem for his own sake and for the sake of David his servant.

Isaiah 37:36**ULT**

³⁶ Then the angel of Yahweh went out and attacked the camp of the Assyrians, putting to death 185,000 soldiers. When {the men} arose early in the morning, dead bodies lay everywhere.

UST

³⁶ That night, an angel from Yahweh went out to where the army of Assyria had set up their tents and killed 185,000 of their soldiers. When the rest of the soldiers woke up the next morning, they saw that there were corpses everywhere.

What did the angel of Yahweh do?

He went out and struck down 185,000 troops in the camp of the Assyrians.

Isaiah 37:37**ULT**

³⁷ So Sennacherib king of Assyria left Israel and went {home} and stayed in Nineveh.

UST

³⁷ Then King Sennacherib left and returned home to Nineveh in Assyria and stayed there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 37:38**ULT**

³⁸ Later, as he was worshiping in the house of Nisrok his god, his sons Adrammelek and Sharezer killed him with the sword. Then they escaped into the land of Ararat. Then Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

37:25 ^[1] .

UST

³⁸ One day, when he was worshiping in the temple of his god Nisrok, his two sons, Adrammelek and Sharezer, killed him with their swords. Then they escaped and went to the region of Ararat northwest of Nineveh. And another of Sennacherib's sons, Esarhaddon, became the king of Assyria.

What happened to Sennacherib after he departed and went home to Nineveh?

While he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, his sons, Adrammelech and Sharezer, struck Sennacherib with the sword.

Isaiah 38

Isaiah 38:1

ULT

¹ In those days Hezekiah was sick to the point of dying. So Isaiah son of Amoz, the prophet, came to him, and said to him, "Yahweh says, 'Set your house in order; for you will die, not live.'"

UST

¹ About that time, Hezekiah became very ill and was close to dying. So Isaiah went to see him and gave him this message: "This is what Yahweh says: 'You should tell the people in your palace what you want them to do after you die because you will not recover from this illness. You are going to die'"

In those days what happened to Hezekiah?

He became very ill and neared death.

What did Isaiah tell Hezekiah?

Isaiah told Hezekiah, "Yahweh says, 'Set your house in order, for you will die and not get well.'"

Isaiah 38:2

ULT

² Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to Yahweh.

UST

² Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed this:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:3

ULT

³ He said, "Please, Yahweh, call to mind how I have faithfully walked before you with my whole heart, and how I have done {what was} good in your sight." Then Hezekiah wept loudly.

UST

³ "Yahweh, do not forget that I have always served you faithfully with all my inner being, and I have done things that pleased you!" Then Hezekiah started to cry loudly.

What did Hezekiah do after receiving Yahweh's message through Isaiah?

He prayed to Yahweh asking Yahweh to remember how he had faithfully walked before Yahweh with his whole heart and how he had done good in Yahweh's sight. And Hezekiah wept loudly.

Isaiah 38:4**ULT**

⁴ Then the word of Yahweh came to Isaiah, saying,

UST

⁴ Then Yahweh gave Isaiah this message:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:5**ULT**

⁵ "Go and say to Hezekiah, the leader of my people, 'This is what Yahweh, the God of David your ancestor, says: I have heard your prayer, and I have seen your tears. See, I am about to add fifteen years to your life.

UST

⁵ "Go back to Hezekiah and tell him that this is what I, the God to whom your ancestor King David belonged, say: 'I have heard what you prayed, and I have seen you crying. So listen: I will enable you to live fifteen years more.

What did Yahweh tell Isaiah to say to Hezekiah? (vv5-6)

He said to tell Hezekiah that he had heard Hezekiah's prayer and his tears. Yahweh told Hezekiah he would add fifteen years to Hezekiah's life and in addition he would rescue Hezekiah and Jerusalem from the king of Assyria and would defend Jerusalem.

Isaiah 38:6**ULT**

⁶ Then I will rescue you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will defend this city.

UST

⁶ And I will rescue you and this city from the power of the king of Assyria. I will defend this city.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:7**ULT**

⁷ This will be the sign to you from Yahweh, that I will do what I have promised.

UST

⁷ And this is what I will do to prove to you that I will do what I have just now promised.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:8**ULT**

⁸ Look, I will cause the shadow on the stairs of Ahaz to go back ten steps." So the shadow went back ten steps of the stairs on which it had advanced.

UST

⁸ I will cause the shadow of the sun to move ten steps backward on the stairs that were built by King Ahaz." So the shadow of the sun on the stairs moved backward ten steps.

What sign did Yahweh say he would give so that Hezekiah would know Yahweh would do what he had spoken?

Yahweh said he would cause the shadow on the stairs of Ahaz to go back ten steps.

Isaiah 38:9**ULT**

⁹ This was the written prayer of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick and then recovered:

UST

⁹ When King Hezekiah was almost well again, he wrote this:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:10**ULT**

¹⁰ "I said that halfway through my life I will go through the gates of Sheol; I am sent there for the rest of my years.

UST

¹⁰ I said to myself, "In the middle of my life I am about to walk through the gates of death, and Yahweh is taking from me the rest of my years.

In Hezekiah's written prayer what did Hezekiah say would happen halfway through his life?

He said he would go through the gates of Sheol.

Isaiah 38:11**ULT**

¹¹ I said that I will no longer see Yahweh, Yahweh in the land of the living; I will no longer look on mankind or the inhabitants of the world. ^[1]

UST

¹¹ I said, "I will not see Yahweh again in this world where people are alive. I will not see my friends again, or be with others who now are alive in this world.

At the beginning of Hezekiah's written prayer what did he say concerning Yahweh?

Hezekiah said he would no longer see Yahweh in the land of the living.

Isaiah 38:12**ULT**

¹² My life is removed and carried away from me like a shepherd's tent; I have rolled up my life like a weaver; you are cutting me off from the loom; between day and night you are ending my life.

UST

¹² It is as if my life had been taken away like a tent whose pegs have been pulled up by a shepherd and taken away. I have to roll up my life like a weaver, like a piece of cloth that a weaver cuts and rolls up, Yahweh has cut off my life." Between morning and evening he will kill me off.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:13**ULT**

¹³ I cried out ^[2] until the morning; like a lion he breaks all my bones. Between day and night you are ending my life.

UST

¹³ I waited patiently all during the night, but my pain was as though I were being torn apart by lions. Between morning and evening he will kill me off.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Like a swallow I chirp; I coo like a dove; my eyes grow tired {with} {looking} upward. Lord, I am oppressed; help me.

UST

¹⁴ I was delirious; I chirped like a swift or a swallow and moaned like a dove. My eyes became tired looking up toward heaven for help. I cried out, 'Yahweh, help me, because I am distressed!'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:15**ULT**

¹⁵ What shall I say? He has both spoken to me, and has done {it}; I will walk slowly all my years because I am overcome with grief.

UST

¹⁵ But there was really nothing that I could say and ask him to reply to me, because it was Yahweh who sent this illness. So now I will live humbly during my remaining years because I am very anguished within myself.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Lord, the sufferings you send are good for me; may my life be given back to me; you have restored my life and health.

UST

¹⁶ Yahweh, the sufferings that you give are good, because what you do and what you say bring new life and health to me. And you have restored me and allowed me to continue to live!

What did Hezekiah say to the Lord concerning his sufferings and grief? (vv16-17)

Hezekiah said the sufferings the Lord sent were good for him and that it was for Hezekiah's benefit that he experienced such grief.

Isaiah 38:17**ULT**

¹⁷ {It was} for {my} benefit that I experienced such grief. You have {rescued} me from the pit of destruction; for you have thrown all my sins behind your back.

UST

¹⁷ Truly, my suffering was good for me; you loved me, and as a result you have rescued me from dying and have also forgiven all my sins.

What did Hezekiah say the Lord had done with his sins?

Hezekiah said the Lord had thrown all of Hezekiah's sins behind his back.

Isaiah 38:18**ULT**

¹⁸ For Sheol does not thank you; death does not praise you; those who go down into the pit do not hope in your trustworthiness.

UST

¹⁸ Dead people cannot praise you; they cannot sing to praise you. Those who have descended to their graves cannot expect you to faithfully do things for them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:19**ULT**

¹⁹ The living person, the living person, he is the one who gives you thanks, as I {do} this day; a father makes known to children your trustworthiness.

UST

¹⁹ Only people who are still alive, like I am, can praise you. Fathers tell their children how you are faithful, and if I remain alive, I will do the same thing.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 38:20**ULT**

²⁰ Yahweh {is about} to save me, and we will celebrate with music all the days of our lives in the house of Yahweh."

UST

²⁰ Yahweh will fully heal me, so we will sing praise to him while others praise him playing musical instruments. We will do that every day of our lives in the temple of Yahweh."

How was Hezekiah going to celebrate Yahweh saving him?

Hezekiah said they would celebrate with music all the days of their lives in the house of Yahweh.

Isaiah 38:21**ULT**

²¹ Now Isaiah had said, "Let them take a lump of figs and put {it} on the boil, and he will recover."

UST

²¹ Isaiah had previously said to Hezekiah's servants, "Prepare an ointment from mashed figs, and spread it on his boil, and then he will recover." So they did that, and Hezekiah recovered.

What did Isaiah say to do so that Hezekiah would recover?

He said, "Let them take a cake of figs and lay it as plaster on the boil and he will recover."

Isaiah 38:22

ULT

²² Hezekiah also had said, "What {will be} the sign that I should go up to the house of Yahweh?"

38:11 ^[1]: (that is, brief existence).

38:13 ^[2] or .

UST

²² And Hezekiah had previously asked, "What will Yahweh do to prove that I will recover and be able to go to his temple?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 39

Isaiah 39:1

ULT

¹ At that time Marduk-Baladan son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a gift to Hezekiah; for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick and had recovered.

UST

¹ Soon after that, Baladan's son Marduk-Baladan, the king of Babylon, heard a report that Hezekiah had been very sick but that he had recovered. So he wrote some letters and gave them to some messengers to take to Hezekiah, along with a gift.

Who sent letters and a present to Hezekiah?

Merodach-baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon sent letters and a present to Hezekiah.

Isaiah 39:2

ULT

² Hezekiah was pleased by these things; he showed the messengers his storehouse of valuable things—the silver, the gold, the spices and precious oil, the storehouse of his weapons, and all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house, nor in all his kingdom, that Hezekiah did not show them.

UST

² When the messengers arrived, Hezekiah welcomed them gladly. Then he showed them everything that was in his treasure houses—the silver, the gold, the spices, and the nice-smelling olive oil. He also took them to see the place where they kept their soldiers' weapons, and he showed them the other valuable things that were in the storehouses. Hezekiah showed them everything that was in the palace or in other places.

What did Hezekiah show to those who brought the letters and present from Merodach-baladan?

Hezekiah showed them his treasury—the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, the storehouse of his weapons, and all that was found in his storehouses. Hezekiah showed them everything in his house and kingdom.

Isaiah 39:3**ULT**

³ Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah and asked him, “What did these men say to you? Where did they come from?” Hezekiah said, “They came to me from the distant country of Babylon.”

UST

³ Then Isaiah went to King Hezekiah and asked him, “Where did those men come from, and what did they want?” He replied, “They came from the far away land of Babylon.”

What did Isaiah ask Hezekiah? (vv3-4)

He asked Hezekiah what the men had said to him, where they had come from, and what they had seen in Hezekiah’s house.

Isaiah 39:4**ULT**

⁴ Isaiah asked, “What have they seen in your house?” Hezekiah answered, “They have seen everything in my house. There is nothing among my valuable things that I have not shown them.”

UST

⁴ Isaiah asked him, “What did they see in your palace?” Hezekiah replied, “They saw everything. I showed them absolutely everything that I own—all my valuable things.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 39:5**ULT**

⁵ Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Listen to the word of Yahweh of hosts:

UST

⁵ Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Listen to this message from Yahweh, commander of the angel armies:

What things did Isaiah say to Hezekiah would be taken to Babylon? (vv5-6)

Yahweh told Hezekiah that all he and his ancestors had stored up until that day would be carried off to Babylon.

Isaiah 39:6**ULT**

⁶ Look, the days are about to come when everything in your palace, the things that your ancestors stored away until this present day, will be carried to Babylon. Nothing will be left, says Yahweh.

UST

⁶ There will be a time when everything in your palace, all the valuable things that your ancestors stored there up until the present time, will be carried away to Babylon. Yahweh says that there will be nothing left.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 39:7**ULT**

⁷ The sons born from you, whom you yourself have fathered—they will take them away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.”

UST

⁷ Furthermore, some of your sons will be forced to go to Babylon. They will be castrated in order that they can become servants in the palace of the king of Babylon.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 39:8**ULT**

⁸ Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “The word of Yahweh that you have spoken {is} good.” For he thought, “There will be peace and stability in my days.”

UST

⁸ Then Hezekiah replied to Isaiah, “The message from Yahweh that you have given to me is good.” He said that because he was thinking, “Even if that happens, there will be peace and safety here during the time that I am alive.”

Why did Hezekiah think the word of Yahweh that Isaiah spoke was good?

He thought it was good because he thought there would be peace and stability in his days.

Isaiah 40

Isaiah 40:1

ULT

¹ "Comfort, comfort my people," says your God.

UST

¹ Our God says, "Encourage my people! Encourage them!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:2

ULT

² "Speak tenderly to Jerusalem; and proclaim to her that her warfare has ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received double from Yahweh's hand for all her sins."

UST

² Speak kindly to the people of Jerusalem; tell them that their suffering is ended Yahweh has forgiven them for the sins that they have committed. He has fully punished them for their sins."

How does God say to comfort his people?

He says to comfort them by speaking tenderly to Jerusalem, telling her that her warfare has ended and her iniquity is pardoned and that she has received double from Yahweh's hand for all her sins.

Isaiah 40:3

ULT

³ A voice cries out, "In the wilderness prepare the way of Yahweh; make straight in the Arabah a highway for our God." ^[1]

UST

³ Someone is shouting, "In the desert plain make the way straight for Yahweh to come to you; make a smooth road for our God."

What does a voice cry out?

It cries, "In the wilderness prepare the way of Yahweh; make straight in the Arabah a highway for our God."

Isaiah 40:4**ULT**

⁴ Every valley will be lifted up, and every mountain and hill will be leveled; and the rugged land will be made level, and the rough places a plain;

UST

⁴ Fill in the valleys; flatten every hill and every mountain. Make the uneven ground smooth, and make the rough places smooth.

What will happen to the land in Israel?

Every valley lifted up, every mountain and hill leveled, the rugged land made level and the rough places made into a plain.

Isaiah 40:5**ULT**

⁵ and the glory of Yahweh will be revealed, and all people will see {it} together; for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken it.

UST

⁵ If you do that, it will become known that Yahweh is glorious, and all people will realize it at the same time. Those things will surely happen because it is Yahweh who has said it."

To whom will the glory of Yahweh be revealed?

Yahweh's glory will be seen by all people together.

Isaiah 40:6**ULT**

⁶ A voice says, "Cry." Another answers, "What should I cry?" "All flesh {is} grass, and all their covenant faithfulness {is} like the flower of the field.

UST

⁶ Someone said to me, "Shout!" I replied, "What should I shout?" He replied, "Shout that people are like grass; their faithfulness fades as quickly as flowers in the field.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:7**ULT**

⁷ The grass withers and the flower wilts when the breath of Yahweh blows on it; surely humanity {is} grass.

UST

⁷ Grass withers and flowers dry up when Yahweh causes a hot wind from the desert to blow on them. And all people are like that.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:8**ULT**

⁸ The grass withers, the flower wilts, but the word of our God will stand forever.”

UST

⁸ The grass withers and the flowers dry up, but what our God promises will last forever.”

What will stand forever?

The word of our God will stand forever.

Isaiah 40:9**ULT**

⁹ Go up on a high mountain, Zion, bearer of good news. ^[2] Shout out loud, Jerusalem. You who bring good news, {raise your voice}, do not be afraid. ^[3] Say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!”

UST

⁹ All of you who bring good news to Zion, shout it from the high mountain! Every one of you who brings good news to the people who live in Jerusalem, shout out loud the message you have to tell! Shout it out! Do not be afraid! Say to the people living in the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!”

What good news was to be proclaimed to Jerusalem and the cities of Judah?

The good news was, “Here is your God!”

Isaiah 40:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Look, the Lord Yahweh comes as a victorious warrior, and his strong arm rules for him. See, his reward is with him, and those he has rescued go before him.

UST

¹⁰ Yahweh your God will be coming with power, he will rule powerfully. When he comes, he will bring with him the people whom he has freed from being slaves in Babylonia.

How does the Lord Yahweh come?

He comes as a victorious warrior.

What does Yahweh bring with him when he comes?

Yahweh brings his reward with him and his recompense goes before him.

Isaiah 40:11**ULT**

¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather in his arm the lambs, and carry {them} close to his heart, {and} will gently lead the ewes nursing their young.

UST

¹¹ He will take care of his people like a shepherd takes care of his sheep, and carries the young lambs in his arms. He carries them close to his chest and he gently leads the female sheep that are nursing their young lambs.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:12**ULT**

¹² Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, measured the sky with the span of his hand, held the dust of the earth in a basket, weighed the mountains in scales, or the hills in a balance?

UST

¹² There is no one like Yahweh! Who else has measured the water in the oceans in the palm of his hand? Who else has measured the sky? Who else knows how much soil is in the earth? Who else has weighed the mountains and hills on scales?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:13**ULT**

¹³ Who has comprehended the mind of Yahweh, or instructed him {as} his counselor?

UST

¹³ And who else can advise Yahweh? Who can teach him or advise him what he should do?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:14**ULT**

¹⁴ {From whom} did he ever receive instruction? Who taught him the correct way to do things, and taught him knowledge, or showed to him the way of understanding?

UST

¹⁴ Has Yahweh ever consulted anyone else to get advice? Does he need someone to tell him what is right to do and how to act justly?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Look, the nations {are} like a drop in a bucket, and are regarded like the dust on the scales; see, he weighs the isles as a speck.

UST

¹⁵ Yahweh considers that the nations are as insignificant as one drop from a bucket full of water. They are as insignificant as dust on scales. He is able to weigh islands as though they weighed no more than specks of dust.

What are the nations like to Yahweh?

The nations are like a drop in a bucket to Yahweh and are regarded like the dust on the scales.

Isaiah 40:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Lebanon {is} not sufficient fuel, nor its wild animals sufficient for a burnt offering.

UST

¹⁶ There would be not enough wood from all the trees in Lebanon to make a suitable fire for sacrificing animals to him, and there are not enough animals in Lebanon to offer as sacrifices to him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:17**ULT**

¹⁷ All the nations {are} insufficient before him; they are regarded by him as nothing.

UST

¹⁷ The nations of the world are completely insignificant to him; he considers that they are worthless and less than nothing.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:18**ULT**

¹⁸ To whom then will you compare God? To what idol will you liken him?

UST

¹⁸ So to whom can you compare God? What image resembles him?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:19**ULT**

¹⁹ An idol! A craftsman casts it: The goldsmith overlays it with gold and forges silver chains for it.

UST

¹⁹ Can you compare him to an idol that is made in a mold, and then is covered with a thin sheet of gold and decorated with silver chains?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:20**ULT**

²⁰ To make an offering one chooses a wood {that} will not rot; he seeks a skillful artisan to make an idol {that} will not fall over.

UST

²⁰ A man who is poor cannot buy silver or gold for his idol; so he selects a piece of wood that will not rot, and he gives it to a craftsman to carve an idol that will not fall over!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:21**ULT**

²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

UST

²¹ Have you not heard this? Do you not understand it? Are you unable to hear what God said long ago—messages that he gave before he created the earth?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:22**ULT**

²² He is the one who sits above the horizon of the earth; and the inhabitants {are} like grasshoppers before him. He stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out as a tent to live in.

UST

²² God sits on his throne above the earth, and the people on the earth below seem to be as small as grasshoppers. He spreads out the sky like a curtain; it is like a tent for him to live in.

Where does God sit?

God sits above the horizon of the earth.

Isaiah 40:23**ULT**

²³ He reduces rulers to nothing and makes the rulers of the earth insignificant.

UST

²³ He causes kings to have no more power, and he causes the rulers to be worth nothing.

What does God do to rulers?

God reduces rulers to nothing and makes the rulers of the earth insignificant.

Isaiah 40:24**ULT**

²⁴ They are barely planted, barely sown, their stem has barely taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them and they wither, and the wind carries them away like straw.

UST

²⁴ They start to rule, like small plants start to grow and form roots; but then he gets rid of them as though they withered when he blew on them, like chaff that is blown away by the wind.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:25**ULT**

²⁵ "To whom then will you compare me, {whom} do I resemble?" says the Holy One.

UST

²⁵ The Holy One asks, "To whom will you compare me? Is anyone equal to me?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:26**ULT**

²⁶ Look up at the sky! Who has created all these stars? He leads out {their} {formations} and calls them all by name. By the greatness of his might and by the strength of {his} power, not one is missing.

UST

²⁶ Look up toward the sky: consider who created all the stars. Yahweh created them, and at night he causes them to appear; he calls each one by its name. Because he is extremely powerful, all of the stars are there when he calls out their names.

What does Yahweh do with the stars?

He leads out their formations and calls them all by name and by the greatness of his might and the strength of his power, not one is missing.

Isaiah 40:27**ULT**

²⁷ Why do you say, Jacob, and declare, Israel, "My way is hidden from Yahweh, and my God is not concerned about my vindication"?

UST

²⁷ You people of Israel, why do you complain that Yahweh does not see the troubles that you are experiencing? Why do you say that he does not act fairly toward you?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:28**ULT**

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, Yahweh, the Creator of the ends of the earth, does not get tired or weary; there is no limit to his understanding.

UST

²⁸ Have you never heard and have you never understood that Yahweh is the everlasting God? He is the one who created the earth, even the most distant places on the earth. He never becomes weak or weary, and no one can find out how much he understands.

Who is Yahweh, and what is he like?

Yahweh is the everlasting God, the creator of the ends of the earth. He does not get tired or weary and there is no limit to his understanding.

Isaiah 40:29**ULT**

²⁹ He gives strength {to the tired}; and to the weak he gives renewed energy.

UST

²⁹ He strengthens those who feel weak and tired.

What does Yahweh do for the tired and weary?

Yahweh gives strength to the tired and renewed energy to the weary.

Isaiah 40:30**ULT**

³⁰ Even young people become tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall:

UST

³⁰ Even youths become faint and weary, and young men will fall when they are exhausted.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 40:31**ULT**

³¹ but those who wait for Yahweh will renew {their} strength; they will soar with wings like eagles; they will run and not be weary; they will walk and not faint.

40:3 ^[1] .

40:9 ^[2] , some versions have .

40:9 ^[3] , some versions have .

UST

³¹ But those who trust in Yahweh will become strong again; it will be as though they will soar as eagles do. They will run for a long time and not become weary; they will walk long distances and not faint.

What will happen to those who wait on Yahweh?

Those who wait on Yahweh will renew their strength; they will soar with wings like eagles; they will run and not be weary; they will walk and not faint.

Isaiah 41

Isaiah 41:1

ULT

¹ “Listen before me in silence, you coastlands; let the nations renew {their} strength; let them come near and speak; let us come near together to argue a dispute.

UST

¹ Yahweh says, “You people who live on islands in the ocean, be silent in front of me while I ask you some questions! Then you can be courageous and talk to me. We will meet together and decide which one of us is right.

For what purpose does Yahweh say, “let us come near together”?

Yahweh says for them to come near together so that they may argue a dispute.

Isaiah 41:2

ULT

² Who has stirred up one from the east, calling him in righteousness to his service? He hands nations over to him and helps {him} subdue kings. He turns {them} to dust with his sword, like windblown stubble with his bow.

UST

² Who has raised up this king to come from the east? He is the one who does what is right with every step. He hands nations over to him and he defeats them, and he tramples their kings under his feet. He cuts their enemies and they are destroyed so they are like the dust, and his army shoots them with bows and arrows so that they are like the chaff when the wind blows.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:3

ULT

³ He pursues them {and} passes by safely, by a swift path {that} his feet scarcely touch.

UST

³ Even though they are in danger, they go very swiftly as they pursue their enemies, and nothing stops them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:4**ULT**

⁴ Who has performed and accomplished {these deeds}? Who has summoned the generations from the beginning? I, Yahweh, the first, and with the last ones, I {am} he.

UST

⁴ Who has enabled rulers to do mighty deeds like that? Who has done that throughout all generations? It is I, Yahweh! I was the first one to do things like that, and I will be the last one to do them.

Who has called forth the generations from the beginning?

It is Yahweh who has done these things.

Isaiah 41:5**ULT**

⁵ The isles have seen and are afraid; the ends of the earth tremble; they approach and come.

UST

⁵ People who live on islands in the ocean are afraid while they watch. People in remote areas tremble and gather together.

What is the response of the isles who have seen and are afraid and the ends of the earth that tremble? (vv5-7)

Their response is to approach and come and they encourage one another to build an idol.

Isaiah 41:6**ULT**

⁶ Everyone helps his neighbor, and every one says to one another, 'Be encouraged.'

UST

⁶ They encourage each other and say to each other, 'Be strong!'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:7**ULT**

⁷ So the carpenter {encourages} the goldsmith, and he who works with the hammer encourages him who works with an anvil, saying of the welding, 'It {is} good.' They fasten it with nails {so} it will not topple over.

UST

⁷ The woodworkers encourage those who make things from gold, and the men who flatten metal encourage those who hammer it on an anvil. They all say, 'The idol has been well made!' Then they carefully nail down the idol in order that it will not topple over!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:8**ULT**

⁸ But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham my friend,

UST

⁸ Yahweh continues to say, "You people of Israel are my servants; you are descendants of Jacob, whom I chose; you are descendants of Abraham, who I said was my friend.

What does Yahweh call Israel? (vv8-9)

Yahweh calls Israel his servant, the offspring of Abraham his friend and he calls Israel chosen.

Isaiah 41:9**ULT**

⁹ {you} whom I am bringing back from the ends of the earth, and whom I called from the far away places, and to whom I said, 'You {are} my servant;' I have chosen you and not rejected you.

UST

⁹ I summoned you from very distant places on the earth, and I said, 'I want you to serve me.' I have chosen you, and I will not reject you.

What does Yahweh say he is doing for Israel?

Yahweh says he is bringing back Israel from the ends of the earth.

Isaiah 41:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Do not fear, for I {am} with you. Do not be anxious, for I {am} your God. I will strengthen you, and I will help you, and I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

UST

¹⁰ Do not be afraid, because I will be with you. Do not be discouraged, because I am your God. I will enable you to be strong, and I will help you; I will hold you up with my powerful arm by which I will rescue you, and I will be completely right to do so!

What does Yahweh tell Israel not to do and why?

Yahweh tells Israel not to fear for Yahweh is with them and to not be anxious because he is their God.

What further does Yahweh say he will do for Israel?

Yahweh says he will strengthen and help them and will uphold them with the right hand of his deserved victory.

Isaiah 41:11**ULT**

¹¹ See, they will be ashamed and disgraced, all who have been angry with you; they will be as nothing and will perish, those who oppose you.

UST

¹¹ It is certain that all those who are angry with you Israelite people will be disgraced. Those who oppose you will be wiped out; they will all die.

What will happen to those who are angry with and oppose Israel?

They will be ashamed and disgraced and will be as nothing and will perish.

Isaiah 41:12**ULT**

¹² You will seek and will not find those who contended with you; those who warred against you will be like nothing, absolutely nothing.

UST

¹² If you search for those who tried to conquer you, you will not find them, because they will all disappear. Those who attacked you will not exist anymore,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:13**ULT**

¹³ For I, Yahweh your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, 'Do not fear; I am helping you.'

UST

¹³ because it will be as though I will hold you up by your right hand. I am Yahweh, your God, and I say to you, 'Do not be afraid, because I will help you.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Do not fear, Jacob you worm, and you men of Israel; I will help you—this is Yahweh's declaration, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

UST

¹⁴ Although others have treated you people of Israel like worms, do not be afraid of your enemies, because I will help you!" This is what Yahweh solemnly says—the one who rescues you, the Holy One of Israel.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Look, I am making you like a sharp threshing sledge, new and two-edged; you will thresh the mountains and crush them; you will make the hills like chaff.

UST

¹⁵ He continues to say, "I will cause you to be like a new threshing sledge, very sharp and two-edged. You will tear your enemies to bits causing them to be like bits of chaff on the mountains.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:16**ULT**

¹⁶ You will winnow them, and the wind will carry them away; the wind will scatter them. You will rejoice in Yahweh, you will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

UST

¹⁶ You will toss them up into the air, and a strong wind will blow them away. When that happens, you will rejoice about what I have done for you; you will praise me, Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel.

What will Israel do when they winnow those who war against them and contend with them?

Israel will rejoice in Yahweh, in the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 41:17**ULT**

¹⁷ The oppressed and needy look for water, but {there is} none, and their tongues are parched for thirst; I, Yahweh, will respond to their prayers; {I}, the God of Israel, will not forsake them.

UST

¹⁷ When poor and needy people need water and they have no water, and their tongues are very dry because they are very thirsty, I, Yahweh, will come and help them. I, the God to whom you Israelite people belong, will never abandon them.

What will Yahweh do when the oppressed and needy look for water? (vv17-18)

Yahweh says he will respond to their prayers by making streams flow down the slopes and making springs in the middle of the valleys, by making the desert into a pool of water and the dry land into springs of water. He will not forsake them.

Isaiah 41:18**ULT**

¹⁸ I will make streams to flow down the slopes, and springs in the middle of the valleys; I will make the desert into a pool of water, and the dry land into springs of water.

UST

¹⁸ I will cause rivers to flow for them on the barren hills. I will give them fountains in the valleys. I will fill the desert with pools of water. Water from springs will flow into rivers, and the rivers will flow across the dry ground.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:19**ULT**

¹⁹ In the wilderness I will set the cedar, the acacia, and the myrtle, and the olive tree. I will set the cypress in the desert plain, {with} the pines and the cypress box trees.

UST

¹⁹ I will plant cedars, acacia, and myrtle, in the wilderness— and olive trees I will plant in the desert plain— cypresses, pines, and boxtrees all together.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:20**ULT**

²⁰ I will do this so that the people may see, recognize, and understand together, that the hand of Yahweh has done this, that the Holy One of Israel has created it.

UST

²⁰ I will do that in order that people who see it will think about it, and they will know and understand that it is I, Yahweh, who has done it; it is what I, the Holy One of Israel, have done.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:21**ULT**

²¹ "Present your case," says Yahweh, "present your best {arguments} for your idols," says the King of Jacob.

UST

²¹ I, Yahweh, the king of Israel am speaking to you nations: Come and tell me what your idols can do for you! Argue your best in defense of them.

What does Yahweh say to those who follow idols?

He says to present their case, bring forth their best arguments for their idols.

Isaiah 41:22**ULT**

²² Let them bring us their own arguments; have them come forward and declare to us what will happen, so we may know these things well. Have them tell us of earlier predictive declarations, so we can reflect on them and know how they {were} fulfilled.

UST

²² Bring them here to tell us what is going to happen! Ask them to tell us what things happened long ago, in order that we may think about those things, and learn if those things that they predicted really happened. Or ask them to tell us about the future, in order for us to know what will happen.

What evidence does Yahweh say those who follow idols should present so we can know if we can believe in them or not

For evidence Yahweh says to tell what will happen, and to tell of earlier predictions so we can reflect on them and know how they were fulfilled.

Isaiah 41:23**ULT**

²³ Tell things about the future, that we may know if you {are} gods; do something good or evil, that we may be frightened and impressed.

UST

²³ Yes, those idols should tell us what will happen in the future. If they do that, we will know that they are really gods. Tell them to do something—either something good or something bad! Tell them to do something that will cause us to be amazed and afraid!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:24**ULT**

²⁴ See, you idols {are} nothing and your deeds {are} nothing; {the one} {who} chooses you {is} detestable.

UST

²⁴ But that is impossible, because idols are absolutely worthless; they can do nothing, and I detest those who decide to worship idols."

What is Yahweh's assessment of the idols and the people who choose them?

Yahweh says their idols are of nothing and their deeds are nothing; he who chooses them is abominable.

Isaiah 41:25**ULT**

²⁵ I have raised up one from the north, and he comes; from the sun's rising I summon him who calls on my name, and he will trample the rulers like mud, like a potter who is treading on the clay.

UST

²⁵ "But I have incited a ruler who will come with his army from the north. I have summoned him to come from his country, which is east of Israel, and he will call on me for help. I will enable his army to conquer other rulers; they will trample those leaders like a man who makes clay pots first tramples the clay.

Who among those who worship idols decreed or declared that one would come from the north and would trample the rulers like mud, like a potter who is treading clay? (vv25-26)

None of those who worship idols decreed it and no one heard them say anything.

Isaiah 41:26**ULT**

²⁶ Who announced this from the beginning, that we might know? Before this time, that we may say, "{He is} right"? Indeed none of them decreed it, yes, none heard you say anything.

UST

²⁶ Who told you people long ago that this would happen? Who predicted it, with the result that we can say, "What he predicted was correct!?" No one else said that it would happen.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 41:27**ULT**

²⁷ {I} first {said} to Zion, "Look here they are;" I sent a herald to Jerusalem.

UST

²⁷ I was the first one to say to the people of Jerusalem: 'Listen to this! I have appointed a messenger to tell good news to you!'

What did Yahweh say concerning the one he raised up from the north?

He said first to Zion, 'Look here they are;' He sent a herald to Jerusalem.

Isaiah 41:28**ULT**

²⁸ When I look, {there is} no one, not one among them who can give good advice, who, when I ask, can answer a word.

UST

²⁸ None of your idols told you that. And when I asked them questions, none of them was able to give me any answers.

In this chapter what are Yahweh's final words about those who follow idols? (vv28-29)

Here are his words: "When I look, there is no one, not one among them who can give counsel, who, when I ask, can answer a word. Look all of them are nothing, and their deeds are nothing; their cast-poured figures are wind and emptiness."

Isaiah 41:29**ULT**

²⁹ Look, all of them {are} nothing, and their deeds {are} nothing; their cast metal figures {are} wind and emptiness.

UST

²⁹ Think about it: Those idols are all useless, worthless things. They are as meaningless as the wind."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42

Isaiah 42:1

ULT

¹ Behold, my servant, whom I uphold; my chosen one, in him I take delight. I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring justice to the nations.

UST

¹ Yahweh says, "I want you people to know about my servant, whom I encourage. I have chosen him, and I am pleased with him. I have given him my Spirit, and he will make certain that all the people groups do what is right.

What does Yahweh say he has done for his servant?

Yahweh says he has chosen his servant, that he delights in him and that he has put his spirit upon him.

What does Yahweh's say his servant will bring to the nations?

Yahweh says his servant will faithfully bring forth justice to the nations.

Isaiah 42:2

ULT

² He will not cry out nor shout, nor make {his voice} heard in the streets.

UST

² He will not show his power by shouting or by talking very loudly.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:3

ULT

³ A crushed reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench: he will faithfully execute justice.

UST

³ He will not get rid of anyone who is weak like a smashed reed, and he will not end the life of anyone who is helpless, like an oil lamp about to stop burning. He will faithfully make sure that judges decide cases justly.

What will Yahweh's servant not do to a crushed reed or a dimly burning wick?

Yahweh says his servant will not break a crushed reed or quench a dimly burning wick.

Isaiah 42:4**ULT**

⁴ He will not grow faint nor be discouraged until he has established justice on the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

UST

⁴ He will not become exhausted or discouraged all during the time that he is causing things to be done justly throughout the earth. Even people living on the islands in the oceans will confidently wait for him to teach them his laws."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:5**ULT**

⁵ This is what God Yahweh says— the one who created the heavens and stretched them out, the one who made the earth and all that it produces, the one who gives breath to the people on it and life to those who live on it:

UST

⁵ Yahweh our God created the sky and spread it out. He also created the earth and everything on it. He gives breath to all the people on the earth and causes them to live. And he is the one who says to his special servant,

How does Yahweh describe himself?

He describes himself as the one who created the heavens and stretched them forth; who spread out the earth and gives life in it; who gives breath to the people on the earth and life to those who live on it.

Isaiah 42:6**ULT**

⁶ "I, Yahweh, have called you in righteousness and will hold your hand. I will keep you and set you as a covenant for the people, as a light for the Gentiles,

UST

⁶ "I, Yahweh, have chosen you to show people that I always act righteously. I will grasp your hand and protect you, and I will present you to my Israelite people to be the one who will put into effect my covenant with them. You will be like a light to the other nations.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:7**ULT**

⁷ to open the eyes of the blind, to release the prisoners from the dungeon, and from the house of confinement those who sit in darkness.

UST

⁷ For you will enable blind people to see, you will free those who are in prison and release those who are in dark dungeons.

What did Yahweh want his chosen servant to do for blind people and prisoners?

Yahweh wanted his servant to open the eyes of the blind, to release the prisoners from the dungeon, and from the house of confinement those who sit in darkness.

Isaiah 42:8**ULT**

⁸ I {am} Yahweh, that {is} my name; and my glory I will not share with another nor my praise with carved idols.

UST

⁸ I am Yahweh; that is my name. I will not allow anyone else to receive the honor that only I deserve. And I will not allow others to praise idols, for they should praise only me.

What does Yahweh say he will not share?

He says he will not share his glory with another nor his praise with carved idols.

How does Yahweh contrast himself with carved idols? (vv8-9)

In contrast to carved idols, things came to pass when Yahweh declared them.

Isaiah 42:9**ULT**

⁹ See, the previous things came to pass, now I am about to declare new events. Before they begin to occur I will tell you about them."

UST

⁹ Everything that I have prophesied has happened, and now I will tell about other things that will happen. I will tell you things that will happen before they happen."

To further declare his glory what did Yahweh say he would do?

He said he was going to declare new events. He was going to tell about them before they occurred.

Isaiah 42:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Sing to Yahweh a new song, {and} his praise from the end of the earth; you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, the coastlands, and those who live there.

UST

¹⁰ Sing a new song to Yahweh! Sing to praise him throughout the world! All you people who sail across the oceans, and all you creatures that live in the oceans, and all you people who live on islands far away, sing!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:11**ULT**

¹¹ Let the desert and the cities {cry out}, {the villages} where Kedar lives, shout for joy! Let the inhabitants of Sela sing; let them shout from the mountaintops.

UST

¹¹ You people who live in towns in the desert, sing loudly! You people who live in the region of Kedar in the north of Arabia, you rejoice also! You people in the city of Sela in Edom, you also should sing joyfully; shout to praise him from the tops of your mountains!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:12**ULT**

¹² Let them give glory to Yahweh and declare his praise in the coastlands.

UST

¹² Even people who live on distant islands should honor Yahweh and sing to praise him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:13**ULT**

¹³ Yahweh will go out as a warrior; as a man of war he will stir up {his} zeal. He will shout, yes, he will roar his battle cries; he will show his enemies his power.

UST

¹³ It will be as though Yahweh will march out like a mighty soldier; he will show that he is very angry. He will shout a battle cry, and then he will defeat all his enemies.

What will Yahweh do to his enemies?

He will show them his power.

Isaiah 42:14**ULT**

¹⁴ I have kept quiet for a long time; I have been still and restrained myself; {now} I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant.

UST

¹⁴ He will say, "I have remained silent for a long time; I have restrained myself from doing what I need to do. But now, like a woman who is giving birth to a baby, I will cry out and gasp and pant."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:15**ULT**

¹⁵ I will lay waste mountains and hills and dry up all their vegetation; and I will turn the rivers into islands and will dry up the marshes.

UST

¹⁵ I will level off the hills and mountains, and I will cause all the plants and trees to dry up. I will cause the rivers to become small streams, and little islands will appear in them, and I will cause all the pools to become dry.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:16**ULT**

¹⁶ I will bring the blind by a way that they do not know; in paths that they do not know I will lead them. I will turn the darkness into light before them, and make the crooked places straight. These things I will do, and I will not abandon them.

UST

¹⁶ My people who have been taken into exile are like blind people, but I will lead them along a road on which they have not walked before, on a road that they have not seen before. They have felt very helpless, as though they were walking in the darkness, but I will take away that darkness and I will make smooth the road that is in front of them. Those are the things that I will do for them; I will not abandon them.

What will Yahweh do for the blind?

He will bring the blind by a way they do not know; in paths that they do not know he will lead them. He will turn the darkness into light before them and make the crooked places straight and he will not abandon them.

Isaiah 42:17**ULT**

¹⁷ They will be turned back, they will be completely put to shame, those who trust in carved figures, who say to cast metal figures, "You {are} our gods."

UST

¹⁷ But those who trust in carved idols, and say to images, 'You are our gods,' will be completely humiliated."

What will happen to those who trust in idols and say to cast metal figures, "You are our gods"?

They will be turned back and completely put to shame.

Isaiah 42:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Listen, you deaf; and look, you blind, that you may see.

UST

¹⁸ You Israelite people who have acted toward God like deaf people, listen to what Yahweh says! "You who have been like blind people, look!

What are the deaf and blind commanded to do?

The deaf are commanded to listen and the blind are commanded to look that they may see.

Isaiah 42:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Who {is} blind but my servant? Or deaf like my messenger I send? {Who} {is} as blind as my covenant partner, or blind as Yahweh's servant?

UST

¹⁹ No people are as blind as my people, who should have been serving me. No people are as much like deaf people as the Israelites, who should have been my messengers. No people are as much like blind people as those whom I chose to serve me in a covenant.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:20**ULT**

²⁰ You see many things, but do not comprehend; ears are open, but no one hears.

UST

²⁰ You see and know what are the right things to do, but you do not do them. You hear what I say to you, but you do not pay attention."

Why does Yahweh command them to listen and see?

He commands them to listen and see because although they saw many things, but did not comprehend; their ears were open but no one really heard.

Isaiah 42:21**ULT**

²¹ It pleased Yahweh to praise {his justice} and to make his law glorious.

UST

²¹ Because Yahweh is righteous, he has honored his glorious laws.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:22**ULT**

²² But this {is} a people robbed and plundered; they are all trapped in pits, held captive in prisons; they have become a plunder with no one to rescue them, and no one says, "Bring them back!"

UST

²² But armies have destroyed Jerusalem and have completely plundered all the valuable things, and they have captured Yahweh's people and taken them away and put them in prison. They have been captured easily, because there was no one to protect them; there was no one to say that they should be allowed to return home.

What does Yahweh say is the peoples' condition?

Yahweh said the people were robbed and plundered; they were all trapped in pits, held captive in prisons; they had become plunder with none to deliver them.

Isaiah 42:23**ULT**

²³ Who among you will listen to this? {Who} will listen and hear in the future?

UST

²³ Who among you will listen carefully to these things? Who will pay attention from now on?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 42:24**ULT**

²⁴ Who gave Jacob over to the robber, and Israel to the looters? Was it not Yahweh, against whom we have sinned, in whose ways they refused to walk, and whose law they refused to obey?

UST

²⁴ Who allowed the valuable possessions of the people of Israel to be stolen? It was Yahweh, because he is the one against whom we had sinned; we did not conduct our lives like he wanted us to, and we did not obey his laws.

Who gave Jacob over to the robber, and Israel to the looters?

It was Yahweh who gave them over.

Why did Yahweh give Jacob over to the robber and Israel to the looters?

Yahweh gave them over because they sinned against Yahweh in whose ways they refused to walk and whose law they refused to obey.

Isaiah 42:25**ULT**

²⁵ Therefore he poured out on them his fierce anger and the violence of war, Its flames encircled them, yet they did not understand; it consumed them, but they did not take {it} to heart.

UST

²⁵ Therefore he was extremely angry with us, and he caused our soldiers to be destroyed in battles. It was as though he had lit a fire around us, but we did not understand what he was trying to tell us. His anger with us was like a fire that would burn us up, but we did not pay attention.

Did Israel realize who had inflicted them with the devastation of war and why he had done it?

No! It blazed around them, yet they did not realize it; it burned them, but they did not take it to heart.

Isaiah 43

Isaiah 43:1

ULT

¹ But now this is what Yahweh says, he who created you, Jacob, and he who formed you, Israel: "Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you; I have called {you} by your name, you {are} mine.

UST

¹ But now, you people of Israel, listen to Yahweh, the one who established your nation. The one who caused you to become a nation says this: "Do not be afraid, because I have rescued you. I have called you by your name, in order that you may belong to me. Now you are mine.

In general what did Yahweh tell Jacob, Israel, to do?

He told Jacob, Israel, not to be afraid.

Isaiah 43:2

ULT

² When you pass through the waters, I {will be} with you; and through the rivers, they will not overwhelm you. When you walk through the fire you will not be burned, and the flames will not destroy you.

UST

² When you experience dangerous situations, and you have hardships as terrible as deep rivers to cross, I will be with you. When you have very painful troubles, as painful as fire, you will be able to endure them, and they will not hurt you,

What did Yahweh say he would do for Israel to protect them?

Yahweh said rivers would not overwhelm Israel and that they wouldn't be harmed or burned by fire or flames.

Isaiah 43:3

ULT

³ For I {am} Yahweh your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

UST

³ because I am Yahweh, your God, the Holy One of Israel, the one who rescues you. I will sacrifice Egypt in your place; and Ethiopia and Seba exchange for you.

What has Yahweh given in ransom and exchange for Israel?

He has given Egypt as ransom and Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for Israel.

Isaiah 43:4**ULT**

⁴ Since you are precious and special in my sight, I love you; therefore I will give people in exchange for you, and other peoples in exchange for your life.

UST

⁴ I will cause other countries to be conquered instead of your country; I will trade them for you, in order that you will not be killed, because you are very precious to me and because I love you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:5**ULT**

⁵ Do not be afraid, for I {am} with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and gather you from the west.

UST

⁵ Do not be afraid, because I am with you. Some day I will gather your descendants from the east and from the west.

What did Yahweh say he would do for Israel's offspring?

Yahweh said he would bring them from the east and gather them from the west.

Isaiah 43:6**ULT**

⁶ I will say to the north, 'Hand them over;' and to the south, 'Do not hold any back;' Bring my sons from afar, and my daughters from the remote regions of the earth,

UST

⁶ I will command the rulers of the nations to the north and to the south, 'Allow all the people of Israel to return to their country, from the most distant places on the earth.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:7**ULT**

⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I have created for my glory, whom I have formed, yes, whom I have made.

UST

⁷ Allow all those who belong to me to return, because I have caused them to become a nation in order that they would honor me; I am the one who has done that.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:8**ULT**

⁸ Bring out the people who are blind, even though they have eyes, and the deaf, even though they have ears.

UST

⁸ Summon the people who have eyes but act as though they were blind; summon those who have ears but act as though they were deaf.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:9**ULT**

⁹ All the nations gather together, and the peoples assemble. Who among them could have declared this and announced to us earlier events? Let them bring their witnesses to prove themselves right, let them listen and affirm, {'It is} true.'

UST

⁹ Gather people of all nations together, ones from all people groups, and ask them this: 'Has any of their idols foretold the things that are happening now? And can any of them predict what will happen in the future?' Then bring people who will testify and say 'I heard them predict things, and what they predicted was what happened,' but they will be lying."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:10**ULT**

¹⁰ You {are} my witnesses," declares Yahweh, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe in me, and understand that I am he. Before me there was no god formed, and there will be none after me.

UST

¹⁰ But Yahweh says, "You people of Israel are my witnesses, and you are the ones who serve me. I chose you in order that you would know me, believe in me, and understand that I am the only one who is truly God. There is no other true God. There was no other true God previously, and there will never be another true God.

Why did Yahweh predict the gathering of his sons and daughters from the east and the west and announce to them earlier events?

Yahweh did this so that they might know him, believe in him and understand that he is God.

Is there any other god or savior than Yahweh? (vv10-11)

Before Yahweh no god was formed and there will be none after him. He is Yahweh and there is no savior but him.

Isaiah 43:11**ULT**

¹¹ I, I {am} Yahweh, and there is no savior but me.

UST

¹¹ I, only I, am Yahweh, and there is no other one who can save you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:12**ULT**

¹² I have declared, saved, and proclaimed, and there is no other {god} among you. You {are} my witnesses," declares Yahweh, "I {am} God.

UST

¹² I said that I would rescue your ancestors, and then I rescued them, and I proclaimed that I had done it. No foreign god among you did that! And you are witnesses that only I, Yahweh, am God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:13**ULT**

¹³ From this day on I am he, and no one can rescue anyone from my hand. I act, and who can turn it back?"

UST

¹³ I am God, the one who has existed forever and who will exist forever; no one can snatch people from my hand, and no one can change what I have done."

Who can deliver us out of God's hand?

No one can deliver us from God's hand.

Isaiah 43:14**ULT**

¹⁴ This is what Yahweh says, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "For your sake I send to Babylon and lead them all down as fugitives, turning the Babylonians' expressions of joy into songs of lamentation.

UST

¹⁴ Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel, is the one who rescues you, and this is what he says: "For your sake, I will send an army to attack Babylon. They will force the people of the city to run away from their city, and to wail in song instead of rejoice in song.

For whose sake did Yahweh send to Babylon and lead them all down as fugitives, turning the Babylonian's expressions of joy into songs of lamentation?

Yahweh did this for Israel's sake.

Isaiah 43:15**ULT**

¹⁵ I {am} Yahweh, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King."

UST

¹⁵ I am Yahweh, your Holy One, the one who caused Israel to become a nation, and the one who is really your king.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:16**ULT**

¹⁶ This is what Yahweh says (who opened a way through the sea and a path in the mighty waters,

UST

¹⁶ I am Yahweh, the one who opened a path through the water, making a road through the Sea of Reeds.

What former things had Yahweh done that he tells them not to remember or consider? (vv16-17)

Yahweh had opened a way through the sea and a path in the mighty waters. He led out the chariot and horse, the army and the mighty host. They fell down together never to rise again. They were extinguished, quenched like a burning wick.

Isaiah 43:17**ULT**

¹⁷ who led out the chariot and horse, the army and the mighty host. They fell down together; they will never rise again; they are extinguished, quenched like a burning wick.)

UST

¹⁷ Then I summoned the great army of Egypt to come with all their chariots and horses. But when they tried to pursue my people, I caused the waves to flow over them and they drowned; their lives ended like the light of a candle ends when someone snuffs out the wick.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:18**ULT**

¹⁸ "Do not think about these former things, nor consider the things of long ago.

UST

¹⁸ But do not think only about what happened in the past, long ago.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Look, I am about to do a new thing; now it begins to happen; do you not perceive it? I will make a road in the desert {and} streams of water in the wilderness.

UST

¹⁹ Instead, consider the new thing that I am going to do. I have already started to do it; can you see it? I am going to make a road through the desert. And I will cause there to be streams in the wasteland.

What new thing does Yahweh say he was about to do in the desert and in the wilderness?

Yahweh said he would make a road in the desert and a stream of water in the wilderness.

Isaiah 43:20**ULT**

²⁰ The wild animals of the field will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, because I give water in the wilderness, {and} rivers in the desert, for my chosen people to drink,

UST

²⁰ The jackals and ostriches and other wild creatures will thank me for giving them water in the desert. I will cause streams to appear in the dry desert in order that my people, the ones whom I have chosen, will have water;

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:21**ULT**

²¹ this people whom I formed for myself, that they might recount my praises.

UST

²¹ I will do that for the people whom I have created and chosen to belong to me, so that they will tell others about the wonderful things I have done for them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:22**ULT**

²² But you have not called on me, Jacob; you have become tired of me, Israel.

UST

²² But now, you descendants of Jacob, you refuse to request my help. You people of Israel have become tired of worshiping me.

**What did this people, Israel, whom Yahweh formed for himself fail to do for Yahweh?
(vv22-23)**

Israel failed to call on Yahweh. They did not bring him any sheep as burnt offerings and they did not honor him with their sacrifices.

Isaiah 43:23**ULT**

²³ You have not brought me any of your sheep as burnt offerings, or honored me with your sacrifices. I have not burdened you with grain offerings, nor wearied you with demands for incense.

UST

²³ You have not brought to me sheep or goats for offerings to burn up on my altar; you have not honored me with any sacrifices, even though the offerings of grain and incense that I asked you to bring to me were not a burden to you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:24**ULT**

²⁴ You have bought me no sweet-smelling cane with money, neither have you poured out to me the fat of your sacrifices; but you have burdened me with your sins, you have wearied me with your evil deeds.

UST

²⁴ You have not bought for me any fragrant reeds, and you have not poured out to me the sweet-smelling fat from any animal sacrifices. But you have burdened me by all the sins that you have committed, and made me weary because of all your iniquities.

What did Israel do to Yahweh?

Israel burdened Yahweh with their sins and wearied him with their evil deeds.

Isaiah 43:25**ULT**

²⁵ I, yes, I, {am} he who blots out your offenses for my own sake; and I will not call to mind your sins any longer.

UST

²⁵ I am the one who is able to forgive you for all your sins; I am the only one who can do that, with the result that I will never think about them again.

Why does Yahweh blot out Israel's offenses and not remember their sins?

Yahweh does this for his own sake.

Isaiah 43:26**ULT**

²⁶ Remind me of what happened. Let us debate together; present {your cause}, that you may be proved innocent.

UST

²⁶ Tell me what I have done that you do not like. Do you think that when you state your case, you will prove that you are innocent?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 43:27**ULT**

²⁷ Your first father sinned, and your leaders have transgressed against me.

UST

²⁷ No, what has happened is that the first ancestor of you Israelites sinned against me, and since then, all your leaders have rebelled against me.

Why was Yahweh going to defile the officials of the sanctuary; handing Jacob over to the destructive ban and Israel to abusive humiliation? (vv27-28)

Yahweh was doing this because their first father sinned and their spokesmen had transgressed against Yahweh.

Isaiah 43:28

ULT

²⁸ Therefore I will defile the holy officials; I will hand Jacob over to complete destruction, and Israel to abusive humiliation."

UST

²⁸ That is why I will cause your priests to be disgraced; I will allow others to destroy you people of Israel and caused you to be despised."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44**Isaiah 44:1****ULT**

¹ Now listen, Jacob my servant, and Israel, whom I have chosen:

UST

¹ But now, you people of Israel whom Yahweh has chosen to serve him, listen to me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:2**ULT**

² This is what Yahweh says, he who made you and formed you in the womb and {who} will help you: "Do not fear, Jacob my servant; and you, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

UST

² Yahweh, the one who created you, watched over you while you were being born, and helps you, says this: "You dear people of Israel whom I have chosen, you who serve me, do not be afraid.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:3**ULT**

³ For I will pour water on the thirsty ground, and flowing streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your children.

UST

³ I will pour water on your dry land and cause streams to flow. And I will pour out my Spirit on your descendants and greatly bless them.

Why did Yahweh tell Jacob he was going to pour out on Jacob's offspring?

Yahweh said he was going to pour out his spirit on their offspring.

Isaiah 44:4**ULT**

⁴ They will spring up among the grass, like willows by the streams of water.

UST

⁴ They will grow up like grass grows along the water, like willow trees grow well along a riverbank.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:5**ULT**

⁵ {One} will say, 'I {belong to} Yahweh,' and another will call out the name of Jacob, and another will write {on} his hand {'Belonging to} Yahweh,' and name {himself} by the name of Israel."

UST

⁵ Some of them will say, 'I belong to Yahweh,' and others will say, 'We are descendants of Jacob,' and others will write on their hands, 'We belong to Yahweh,' and others will say, 'We are Israelites, and we belong to Yahweh.'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:6**ULT**

⁶ This is what Yahweh says—the King of Israel and his Redeemer, Yahweh of hosts: "I {am} the first, and I {am} the last; and {there is} no God but me.

UST

⁶ Yahweh, the King of Israel, the one who saves us, commander of the angel armies, says this: "I am the one who begins everything and who ends everything; there is no other God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:7**ULT**

⁷ Who is like me? Let him announce it and explain to me the events that occurred since I established my ancient people, and let them declare the events to come.

UST

⁷ If there is anyone like me, he should proclaim it! He should speak and tell me now! He should tell what has happened since I caused my people of Israel to become a nation long ago; he should also explain why events in the past happened the way they did, and he should predict what will happen in the future.

How could someone prove to Yahweh that there was someone else like him; another god?

To prove that to Yahweh you would have to explain to him the events that occurred since Yahweh established his ancient people and they would have to declare the events to come.

Isaiah 44:8**ULT**

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid. Have I not declared to you long ago, and announced {it}? You {are} my witnesses: Is there any God besides me? {There is} no other Rock; I know of none."

UST

⁸ My people, do not be afraid. Long ago I told you things that would happen; you know that I predicted them, and you can testify that I did that. There certainly is not any other God. There is no other God who is able to protect you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:9**ULT**

⁹ All who fashion idols are nothing; the things they delight in {are} worthless; their witnesses cannot see or know anything, and they will be put to shame.

UST

⁹ All those who make idols are foolish, and the idols that they think highly of are worthless. And the people who worship those idols—it is as though they were blind, and they will be ashamed for having worshiped those idols.

What does Yahweh say concerning those who fashion idols?

Yahweh says they are nothing and that the things they delight in are worthless and they will be put to shame.

Isaiah 44:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Who would form a god or cast an idol that is worthless?

UST

¹⁰ Only foolish people would make idols in a mold, idols that would never help them at all.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:11**ULT**

¹¹ Look, all his associates will be put to shame; the craftsmen {are} only men. Let them take their stand together; they will cower and be put to shame.

UST

¹¹ Those who make idols and those who worship them will be ashamed. Those who make idols are only human beings, but they claim that they are making gods! They should stand in front of God in a courtroom, and when they hear what he says, they will be terrified, and they will all be disgraced.

What will happen to the craftsmen and their associates who form a god or cast an idol?

Craftsmen and their associates who form a god or cast an idol will be put to shame.

Isaiah 44:12**ULT**

¹² The smith works with his tools, forming it, working over the coals. He shapes it with hammers and works it with his strong arm. He is hungry, and his strength wanes; he {drinks} no water and becomes faint.

UST

¹² Metalworkers stand in front of hot coals in order to make idols. They pound them with hammers and shape them. Because they work very hard, they become hungry and weak; they become very thirsty and feel exhausted.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:13**ULT**

¹³ The carpenter measures the wood with a line, and marks it with a stylus. He shapes it with {his} tools and marks it out with a compass. He shapes it after the figure of a man, like an attractive human, so it may stay in a house.

UST

¹³ Then a woodcarver takes a big block of wood and he measures it; then he marks it to show where he will cut it. He uses a chisel and other tools to carve it to resemble a human. He causes it to become a very beautiful idol, and then he puts it in a special house, where he will bow down to it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:14**ULT**

¹⁴ He cuts down cedars, or chooses a cypress tree or an oak tree. He picks for himself trees in the forest. He plants a fir tree and the rain makes it grow.

UST

¹⁴ Before he carves an idol from that block of wood, he has already cut down a cedar tree, or he has selected a cypress tree or an oak tree and allowed it to grow tall in the forest. Or he has planted a pine tree, and the rain has watered it and caused it to grow tall.

How does a carpenter start to make an idol?

He cuts down cedar trees, or chooses a cyprus tree or an oak tree.

Isaiah 44:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Then a man uses {it} for a fire and warms himself. Yes, he kindles a fire and bakes bread. Then he makes from {it} a god and bows down to {it}; he makes an idol and bows down to {it}.

UST

¹⁵ After he uses part of the tree to make an idol, he uses the other part to make a fire, either to warm himself or to bake bread. But he uses part of the same tree to make for himself an idol to worship! He makes an idol, and then he bows down to worship it.

What does the man do with the wood from the tree he has cut down? (vv15-16)

The man uses part of it for a fire and warms himself with it, bakes bread with it and roasts his meat over it and with part of it he makes an idol, a god, and bows down to it.

Isaiah 44:16**ULT**

¹⁶ He burns part of the wood for the fire, roasting his meat over it. He eats and is satisfied. He warms {himself} and says, "Ah, I am warm, I have seen the fire."

UST

¹⁶ He burns part of the wood of that tree to cook his meat and eats it and becomes full, and he burns part of it to warm himself, and he says, "I feel warm while I am watching the flames in the fire."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:17**ULT**

¹⁷ With the rest of the wood he makes a god, his carved image; he bows down to it and reverences it, and prays to it saying, "Rescue me, for you {are} my god."

UST

¹⁷ Then he takes the rest of the wood and makes an idol which is to be his god. He bows down to it and honors it, and prays to it and says, "You are my god, so save me!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:18**ULT**

¹⁸ They do not know, nor do they understand, for their eyes are blind and cannot see, and their hearts cannot perceive.

UST

¹⁸ Those people are very stupid and ignorant. It is as though they were blind and unable to see, as though their minds were closed and unable to think well.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:19**ULT**

¹⁹ No one thinks, nor do they comprehend and say, "I have burned part of the wood in the fire; yes, I have also baked bread upon its coals. I have roasted meat over its coals and eaten. Now should I make the other part of the wood into something disgusting to worship? Should I bow down to a block of wood?"

UST

¹⁹ They do not think about what they are doing, that they are taking a block of wood and burning half of it to warm themselves and using some of the rest to bake bread and roast some meat! They do not say to themselves, "It is stupid to take the rest of the wood to make a detestable idol! It does not make sense to bow down to a block of wood!"

Because those who make and worship idols are without understanding or knowledge and their eyes are blind and their hearts are unperceiving, what two questions do they not ask themselves?

First, they don't ask themselves if they should make the other part of the wood into something disgusting to worship. Second, they don't ask themselves if it is reasonable to bow down to a block or wood.

Isaiah 44:20**ULT**

²⁰ It is as if he were eating ashes; his deceived heart misleads him. He cannot rescue himself, nor does he say, "This thing in my right hand {is} a false god."

UST

²⁰ They might as well be eating the ashes from a fire! They trust in something that cannot save them; they do not admit, "In my hand I hold something that is not really a god! "

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:21**ULT**

²¹ Think about these things, Jacob, and Israel, for you are my servant: I have formed you; you are my servant: Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.

UST

²¹ Yahweh says, "You descendants of Jacob, you people of Israel who should be serving me, I created you, and I will not forget you.

Why are Jacob and Israel told to think about Yahweh as the only God and idols as nothing? (vv21-22)

They are to remember these things because Yahweh formed them, they are his servants and he will not forget them. Also Yahweh has blotted out their sins and rebellious deeds.

Isaiah 44:22**ULT**

²² I have blotted out, like a {thick} cloud, your rebellious deeds, and like a cloud, your sins; return to me, for I have redeemed you.

UST

²² I have gotten rid of your sins like the wind blows away a cloud. It is as though your transgressions were a morning mist that I have blown away. Return to me because I have rescued you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:23**ULT**

²³ Sing, you heavens, for Yahweh has done {this}; shout, you depths of the earth. Break out into singing, you mountains, you forest with every tree in it; for Yahweh has redeemed Jacob, and will show his glory in Israel.

UST

²³ The sun and moon and stars in the sky, should sing, and the very deepest places of the earth will should joyfully! All the mountains and forests, and all you trees, should sing loudly, because Yahweh has rescued the descendants of Jacob, and the people of Israel will praise him.

Why are the heavens, the mountains, the forest and every tree commanded to sing?

They are commanded to sing because Yahweh has redeemed Jacob and will show his glory in Israel.

Isaiah 44:24**ULT**

²⁴ This is what Yahweh says, your Redeemer, he who formed you from the womb: "I {am Yahweh,} who made {everything}, who alone stretched out the heavens, who alone fashioned the earth.

UST

²⁴ Yahweh, who saved you and created you, says this: "I am Yahweh, the one who created everything. I am the only one who stretched out the sky. There was no one who was with me when I created the earth.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:25**ULT**

²⁵ I who frustrate the omens of the empty talkers and who disgrace those who read omens; I who overturn the wisdom of the wise and make their advice foolish.

UST

²⁵ I show that the false prophets are liars, and I show that those who perform rituals to predict the future are fools. Some people who falsely think that they are wise say that they know much, but I show that they are foolish.

What does Yahweh do to omens and to those who read them?

Yahweh frustrates the omens of the empty talkers and disgraces those who read omens.

Isaiah 44:26**ULT**

²⁶ I, Yahweh, who confirmed the words of his servant and brings to pass the predictions of his messengers, who says of Jerusalem, 'She will be inhabited,' and of the towns of Judah, 'They will be built again, and I will raise up their ruins';

UST

²⁶ But I always cause to happen what my prophets predict. I tell them to say to the people of Jerusalem, 'Some day people will live here again.' And I tell them to say to the people in other towns in Judah that I, Yahweh, say, 'Your towns will be rebuilt; I will cause the places that are only ruins to be rebuilt.'

What does Yahweh do for his servant and messengers?

Yahweh fulfills the declarations of his servant and brings to pass the counsel of his messengers.

What did Yahweh say about Jerusalem and the cities of Judah?

He said that Jerusalem would be inhabited and the cities of Judah would be built again and that he would raise up her waste places.

Isaiah 44:27**ULT**

²⁷ who says to the deep sea, 'Be dry, and I will dry up your currents.'

UST

²⁷ When I say to the rivers, 'Dry up!' they will become dry.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 44:28**ULT**

²⁸ Yahweh is the one who says of Cyrus, '{He is} my shepherd, he will do my every wish; he will decree about Jerusalem, 'She will be rebuilt,' and about the temple, 'Let its foundations be laid.'"

UST

²⁸ When I say about King Cyrus, 'He will take care of my people like a shepherd takes care of his sheep, he will do all that I want him to do,' he will say about Jerusalem, 'We must rebuild it!' and he will also say, 'We must rebuild the temple!'"

What did Yahweh say about Cyrus and what he would do?

Yahweh said of Cyrus, "He is my shepherd, he will do my every wish—he will decree about Jerusalem, 'Let her be rebuilt,' and about the temple, 'Let your foundations be laid.'"

Isaiah 45

Isaiah 45:1

ULT

¹ This is what Yahweh says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I hold, in order to subdue nations before him, to disarm kings, and to open the doors before him, so that gates remain open:

UST

¹ Cyrus is the one whom Yahweh has appointed to be the emperor of Persia and to whom he will give great power; Yahweh will enable him to defeat other nations and to take away the power of their kings. He will cause gates of cities to be opened, and no one will ever be able to shut them.

In this chapter, who is the Lord's anointed?

In this chapter, Yahweh says Cyrus is his anointed.

Why does Yahweh hold Cyrus' hand?

Yahweh holds Cyrus' hand in order to subdue nations before him, to disarm kings, and to open the doors before him, so that gates remain open.

Isaiah 45:2

ULT

² "I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut in pieces their iron bars,

UST

² This is what Yahweh says to him: "Cyrus, I will go ahead of you and level the mountains. I will smash down bronze gates and cut through their iron bars.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 45:3**ULT**

³ and I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden away, that you may know that it is I, Yahweh, who call you by your name, I, the God of Israel.

UST

³ I will give you treasures that people have hidden in dark secret places. I will do that in order that you will know that I am Yahweh, the God to whom the Israelites belong, the God who calls you by your name.

Why will Yahweh go before Cyrus and level the mountains, break in pieces the doors of bronze, cut in pieces their iron bars and give him treasures of darkness and riches hidden away?

Yahweh will do these things so that Cyrus will know that it is Yahweh the God of Israel who called him.

Isaiah 45:4**ULT**

⁴ For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel my chosen, I have called you by your name, giving you a title of honor, though you have not known me.

UST

⁴ I have summoned you, calling out your name, for the sake of the people of Israel whom I have chosen, who serve me. Even though you do not know me, I will give you a title that has great honor.

For whose sake has Yahweh called Cyrus by his name?

Yahweh has done this for Jacob his servants sake and Israel his chosen

Did Cyrus know Yahweh? (vv4-5)

No, Cyrus did not know Yahweh.

Isaiah 45:5**ULT**

⁵ I am Yahweh, and there is no other; there is no God but me. I will arm you for battle, though you have not known me;

UST

⁵ I am Yahweh, and there is no other God. Even though you do not know me, I will give you power to wage war

Is there is any other God besides Yahweh? (vv5-6)

No, there is no other God except Yahweh.

Isaiah 45:6**ULT**

⁶ that people may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that {there is} no god but me: I {am} Yahweh, and {there is} no other.

UST

⁶ in order that everyone in the world, from the east to the west, will know that there is no other God. I am Yahweh, and there is no other God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 45:7**ULT**

⁷ I form the light and create darkness; I bring peace and create disaster; I am Yahweh, who does all these things.

UST

⁷ I created the light and the darkness. I cause there to be peace and I cause there to be disasters. I, Yahweh, do all those things."

Who formed the light and created darkness and who brings peace and creates disaster?

Yahweh is the one who does all these things.

Isaiah 45:8**ULT**

⁸ You heavens, rain down from above! Let the skies rain down righteousness. Let the earth absorb it, that salvation may sprout up, and righteousness spring up together with it. I, Yahweh, have created them both.

UST

⁸ Yahweh also says, "Just like the rain falls on the earth to help it, I will help my people and rescue them; I will cause them to be treated justly. I, Yahweh, am the one who will cause both of those things to happen.

Who created salvation?

Yahweh created salvation.

Isaiah 45:9**ULT**

⁹ Woe to anyone who argues with the one who formed him, to him who is like any other earthen pot among all the earthen pots in the ground! Does the clay say to the potter, 'What are you making?' or 'Your work has no handles on it?'

UST

⁹ Terrible things will happen to those who argue with me, because I am the one who created them. They are like clay pots who are arguing with the Potter who made them; they are just like every other clay pot that is made, and yet they argue with the One who made them and formed them out of the clay. Can a lump of clay say to the potter who made him, 'Why are you making me like this?' The clay pot cannot say 'What do you think you are doing, making me this way?' or "You have no skill and your clay pots are not worth anything!"

To what thing does Yahweh compare someone who argues with his maker?

He compares someone who argues with his maker to clay that says to the potter, "What are you doing?" or, 'What you were making—did you have no hands when you did it?'

Isaiah 45:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Woe to him who {says} to a father, 'What are you fathering?' or to a woman, 'What are you giving birth to?'

UST

¹⁰ And it would be terrible if an unborn baby would say to its father, 'Why are you causing me to be born?' or if it said to its mother, 'The result of your labor pains will be useless.'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 45:11**ULT**

¹¹ This is what Yahweh says, the Holy One of Israel, his Maker: 'Why do you ask questions about what I will do for my children? Do you tell me what to do concerning the work of my hands?'

UST

¹¹ Yahweh, the Holy One of the Israelite people, the one who created Israel, says this to them: "Why do you ask questions about what I do for you, my children? Why do you instruct me about the work that I should do?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 45:12**ULT**

¹² I made the earth and created man on it. It was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I commanded all the stars to appear.

UST

¹² I am the one who created the earth and created people to live on it. I stretched out the sky with my hands, and I put the stars in their places.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 45:13**ULT**

¹³ I stirred Cyrus up in righteousness, and I will smooth out all his paths. He will build my city; he will let my exiled people go home, and not for price nor bribe," says Yahweh of hosts.

UST

¹³ And I have made Cyrus to desire to do things that are right, and I will enable him to do all those things easily. No one will be able to stop him. His workers will rebuild my city, and he will free my people who have been exiled. And he will do it without my rewarding him!" This is what Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, says.

What will Cyrus do for Yahweh?

He will build Yahweh's city; he will let Yahweh's exiled people go home and not for price nor bribe.

Isaiah 45:14**ULT**

¹⁴ This is what Yahweh says, "The earnings of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush with the Sabeans, men of tall stature, will be brought to you. They will be yours. They will follow after you, coming in chains. They will bow down to you and plead with you {saying,} 'Surely God {is} with you, and {there is} no other except him.'"

UST

¹⁴ And this is also what I, Yahweh, say to you, my people: "You will rule the people of Egypt and Ethiopia, and the tall people of Seba will become your slaves. They will come to you bringing all the things that they sell, and it will all be yours. They will have chains on their arms as they follow you. They will bow down in front of you and say, 'God is with you and he is the only God; there is no other God.'"

Is there is any other God besides Yahweh?

No, there is no other God except Yahweh.

Isaiah 45:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Truly you {are} a God who hides yourself, God of Israel, Savior.

UST

¹⁵ God, although we cannot see you, you are the one to whom we Israelite people belong, the one who saves us.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 45:16**ULT**

¹⁶ They will all be ashamed and disgraced together; those {who} {carve} idols will walk in humiliation.

UST

¹⁶ All those who make idols will be humiliated. They will all be disgraced together.

Who will walk in humiliation?

Those who carve idols will walk in humiliation.

Isaiah 45:17**ULT**

¹⁷ {But} Israel will be saved by Yahweh with an everlasting salvation; you will never again be ashamed or humiliated.

UST

¹⁷ But you, Yahweh, will rescue us, your Israelite people, and we will be free forever. Never again, during all the future, will we again be humiliated and disgraced.

How long will Israel's salvation last?

Yahweh will save Israel with a everlasting salvation.

Isaiah 45:18**ULT**

¹⁸ This is what Yahweh says, who created the heavens, the true God who created the earth and made it, who established it. He created it, not as a waste, but designed it to be inhabited: "I {am} Yahweh, and {there is} no other.

UST

¹⁸ Yahweh is God; he is the one who created the sky and created and formed the earth. He did not want it to remain with nothing living on it; he wanted people to live on it. He says, "I am Yahweh; there is no other God.

Is there is any other God besides Yahweh?

No, there is no other God except Yahweh.

Why did Yahweh design the earth?

He designed it to be inhabited.

Isaiah 45:19**ULT**

¹⁹ I have not spoken in private, in some hidden place; I did not say to Jacob's descendants, 'Seek me in vain!' I am Yahweh, who speaks sincerely; I declare the {things} that are right.

UST

¹⁹ What I proclaimed, I did not speak secretly; I did not hide what I was saying by speaking in a dark place. When I spoke to the descendants of Jacob, I did not tell them 'It will be useless for you to seek for me!' I, Yahweh, speak only what is true and what is right.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 45:20**ULT**

²⁰ Assemble yourselves and come! Gather together, you {refugees} from among the nations! They have no knowledge, those who carry carved images and pray to gods {that} cannot save.

UST

²⁰ You people who are still alive after experiencing great disasters, should come and gather together and listen to this: The people who carry around their wooden idols and pray to them are foolish, because those idols cannot rescue them!

Who has no knowledge?

Those who carry carved images and pray to gods who cannot save, have no knowledge.

Isaiah 45:21**ULT**

²¹ Come close and declare it to me, bring {the} {evidence}! Let them conspire together. Who has shown this from long ago? {Who} announced it? Was it not I, Yahweh? {There is} no God except me, a just God and a Savior; {there is} no one besides me.

UST

²¹ Talk among yourselves and decide what you will say to prove that you should pray to idols. And when you do that, I will ask you, 'Who predicted long ago what has now happened? Did any idol tell you that those things would happen?' No, it was only I, Yahweh, who told you, because I am the only God; there is no other God. I am a God who acts righteously and saves people; there is no other one who does these things.

Is there is any other God besides Yahweh? (vv21-22)

No, there is no other God except Yahweh.

Isaiah 45:22**ULT**

²² Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I {am} God, and {there is} no other.

UST

²² Everyone in the world should ask me to save them, because I am the only God who can do that; there is no other one.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 45:23**ULT**

²³ By myself I swear, speaking my just decree, and it will not turn back: 'To me every knee will bend, every tongue will swear.

UST

²³ I have solemnly declared, using my own name; I have spoken what is true, and I will never change what I have said: Some day, everyone will bow in front of me, and they will all solemnly promise to be loyal to me.

Who does Yahweh swear by?

Yahweh swears by himself.

Isaiah 45:24**ULT**

²⁴ They will say of me, "In Yahweh alone are salvation and strength." They will all be ashamed who are angry at him.

UST

²⁴ They will declare, "Yahweh is the one who enables us to live righteously and to be strong." And all those who have been angry at Yahweh will come to him, and they will be ashamed that they were angry with him.

What will every tongue swear?

Every tongue will swear saying, "In Yahweh alone are deliverance and strength."

Isaiah 45:25**ULT**

²⁵ In Yahweh all the descendants of Israel will be justified; they will take pride in him.

UST

²⁵ Yahweh is the only one who will enable us Israelite people in all future times to defeat our enemies, and then we will boast about what he has done for us.

What will happen with all the descendants of Israel?

In Yahweh all the descendants of Israel will be justified; they will take pride in him.

Isaiah 46

Isaiah 46:1

ULT

¹ Bel bows down, Nebo stoops; their idols are carried by animals and beasts of burden. These idols that you carry {are} a heavy burden for weary {animals}.

UST

¹ It is as though Bel and Nebo, the statues of the gods of Babylonia, were bowing down as they are put on animals and carried away! The statues are heavy burdens and will cause the animals to become tired!

What are Bel and Nebo?

They are idols.

Who carries Bel and Nebo?

Bel and Nebo are carried by animals.

Isaiah 46:2

ULT

² Together they bend low, kneel down; they cannot rescue the images, and they themselves have gone off into captivity.

UST

² Gods and animals are all bowed down; the gods can save neither themselves nor the beasts of burden; the gods themselves are going into exile!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 46:3**ULT**

³ Listen to me, house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been carried {by me} from before your birth, carried from the womb.

UST

³ Yahweh says, "You descendants of Jacob who were exiled, I am not like the gods of Babylonia that must be carried; instead, it is as though I have carried you since you first became a nation. I carried you even before you became a nation.

Who carried the house of Jacob?

Yahweh carried the house of Jacob.

How long has Yahweh carried the house of Jacob and how long will he carry them? (vv3-4)

Yahweh carried them before their birth and will carry them even until their hair is gray.

Isaiah 46:4**ULT**

⁴ Even to {your} old age I {am} he, and until your hair is gray I will carry {you}. I made you and I will bear you; I will carry {you} and I will rescue you.

UST

⁴ I will be your God, and I will carry you for many years, until it is as though your nation is an old man with gray hair. I caused you to become a nation, and I will sustain you and rescue you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 46:5**ULT**

⁵ To whom will you compare me? Who do you think I resemble, so that we may be compared?

UST

⁵ There is certainly no one to whom I can be compared. There is no one who is equal to me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 46:6**ULT**

⁶ People pour out gold from the bag and weigh silver on the scale. They hire a metalsmith, and he makes it into a god; they bow down and worship it.

UST

⁶ So it is stupid that some people pour out gold and silver from their bags and weigh it on a scale. Then they hire a man who makes things from gold to make an idol from it. After he makes an idol, they bow down and worship it!

What do people do with gold and silver?

The people hire a metalsmith and he takes their gold and silver and make it into a god.

Isaiah 46:7**ULT**

⁷ They lift it on their shoulder and carry it; they set it in its place, and it stands in its place and does not move from it. {They} cry out to it, but it cannot answer nor save anyone from his trouble.

UST

⁷ They lift it up and carry it on their shoulders. They put it in a special place, and it stays there. It cannot move! And when someone prays to it, it does not answer. So obviously it cannot rescue anyone from his troubles!

Can that god save answer them or save them?

No it cannot answer nor save anyone from his trouble.

Isaiah 46:8**ULT**

⁸ Think about these things; never ignore them, you rebels!

UST

⁸ You people of Judah, do not forget this; keep thinking about it, you sinful people!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 46:9**ULT**

⁹ Think about the earlier things, those of times past, for I {am} God, and {there is} no other, {I am} God, and {there is} no one like me.

UST

⁹ Think about the things that I did long ago. Only I am God; I am God, and there is no one like me.

To whom can Yahweh be compared? Who is like him?

Yahweh is God and there is no other. There is no one like him.

Isaiah 46:10**ULT**

¹⁰ I announce the end from the beginning, and beforehand {what} has not {yet} happened; I say, "My plan will happen, and I will do as I desire."

UST

¹⁰ Only I can tell what will happen in the future before it occurs; I tell it long before it happens. I will accomplish everything that I plan to accomplish, and I will do everything that I want to do.

What sets Yahweh, God, apart from idols?

Yahweh is set apart by the fact that he announces the end from the beginning, and announces beforehand what has not yet happened.

Isaiah 46:11**ULT**

¹¹ I call a bird of prey from the east, the man of my choice from a distant land; yes, I have spoken; I will also accomplish it; I have purposed, I will also do it.

UST

¹¹ So I will summon Cyrus to come from the east like a swift and powerful eagle; he will come from a distant country. He will accomplish what I want him to. He is the one who will do what I have said that I want him to do, what I have planned.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 46:12**ULT**

¹² Listen to me, you stubborn people, who {are} far from doing what is right.

UST

¹² You stubborn people of Israel, you who are completely unable to do what is right,

**What is Yahweh doing for the stubborn people, who are far from doing what is right?
(vv12-13)**

Yahweh is bringing his righteousness near. He will give deliverance to Zion and his beauty to Israel.

Isaiah 46:13**ULT**

¹³ I am bringing my righteousness near; it is not far away, and my salvation does not wait; and I will give salvation to Zion and my beauty to Israel.

UST

¹³ I will rescue you, and it will not be a long time before that happens. I will do it soon. I will rescue Jerusalem and show to you Israelite people that I am glorious.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 47**Isaiah 47:1****ULT**

¹ Come down and sit in the dust, virgin daughter of Babylon; sit on the ground without a throne, daughter of the Chaldeans. You will no longer be called dainty and delicate.

UST

¹ Yahweh also says, "You people of Babylon, you should go and sit in the dust, because your time to rule other countries is almost ended. People will never again say that Babylonia is beautiful like a very attractive young woman.

Who will no longer be called dainty and delicate?

The virgin daughter of Babylon, the daughter of the Chaldeans, will no longer be called dainty and delicate.

Isaiah 47:2**ULT**

² Take the millstone and grind flour; remove your veil, strip off your flowing robe, uncover your legs, cross the streams.

UST

² You will be slaves, so take heavy stones and grind grain like slave women do. Take off your beautiful veils and take off your robes as you prepare to cross streams to go where you will be forced to go.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 47:3**ULT**

³ Your nakedness will be uncovered, yes, your shame will be seen: I will take vengeance and will not spare a man.

UST

³ You will be naked and very ashamed. I will have vengeance on you and will not pity you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 47:4**ULT**

⁴ Our Redeemer, Yahweh of hosts {is} his name, the Holy One of Israel.

UST

⁴ The one who frees us people of Judah, whom we call 'Yahweh, Commander of the angel armies,' is the Holy One of Israel.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 47:5**ULT**

⁵ Sit in silence and go into darkness, daughter of the Chaldeans; for you will no longer be called queen of kingdoms.

UST

⁵ Yahweh says, "You people of Babylon, sit silently in the darkness, because no one will never again say that your city is like a queen that rules many kingdoms.

What will the daughter of the Chaldeans no longer be called?

The daughter of the Chaldeans will no longer be called Queen of kingdoms.

Isaiah 47:6**ULT**

⁶ I was angry with my people; I defiled my heritage and gave them over into your hand, but you showed them no mercy; you placed a very heavy yoke on the old people.

UST

⁶ I was angry with the people who belong to me, and I punished them. I allowed you people of Babylon to conquer them. But when you conquered them, you did not act mercifully toward them. You oppressed even the old people.

Why was Yahweh upset with the Chaldeans?

Yahweh was upset with the Chaldeans because although Yahweh gave his people into the Chaldean's hands, they showed Yahweh's people no mercy and placed a very heavy yoke on the old people.

Isaiah 47:7**ULT**

⁷ You said, "I will rule forever as sovereign queen." You did not take these {things} to heart, nor did you consider how they would turn out.

UST

⁷ You said, 'We will rule other nations forever; it is as though our city will be the queen of the world forever!' But you did not think about the things that you were doing, or think about what would result.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 47:8**ULT**

⁸ So now hear this, {you who} love pleasure and sit securely; you who say in your heart, "I {exist}, and there is no one else like me; I will never sit as a widow, nor will I ever experience loss of children."

UST

⁸ You people of Babylon who enjoy pleasures and who live in luxury, listen to this: You act as though you were gods, saying, "I am special, and there is no one better than I am," None of our women will ever become widows, and none of our children will ever be killed in wars.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 47:9**ULT**

⁹ But these two {things} will come to you in a moment in one day: the loss of children and widowhood; in full force they will come on you, despite your sorceries and your many incantations and amulets.

UST

⁹ But both of those things will happen to you suddenly: many of your women will become widows and many of your children will die, even though you perform much sorcery and many kinds of magic to prevent bad things from happening to you.

What will happen to the daughter of the Chaldeans in a moment in one day?

The daughter of the Chaldeans will suffer loss of children and widowhood in a moment in one day.

Isaiah 47:10**ULT**

¹⁰ You have trusted in your wickedness; you have said, "No one sees me"; your wisdom and your knowledge lead you astray, but you say in your heart, "I {exist}, and {there is} no one else {like me}."

UST

¹⁰ You felt safe even though you were doing many wicked things, and you said, 'No one will see what we are doing!' You thought that you were very wise and knew many things, and you said, 'We are gods, and there are no others like us,' but you deceived yourselves.

What has the daughter of the Chaldeans trusted in?

She has trusted in her wickedness.

Isaiah 47:11**ULT**

¹¹ Disaster will overcome you; you will not be able to drive it away with your incantations. Destruction will fall on you; you will not be able to ward it off. Calamity will strike you suddenly, before you know it.

UST

¹¹ So you will experience terrible things, and you will not be able to prevent them by working magic. You will experience disasters, and you will not be able to pay any magician to keep those things from happening. A catastrophe will happen to you suddenly, something that you will not realize is about to happen.

What did not ward off the disaster and destruction that was coming on the daughters of the Chaldeans?

The incantations of the daughters of the Chaldeans was not able to ward off the disaster and destruction that was coming on them.

Isaiah 47:12**ULT**

¹² Persist in casting your spells and your many sorceries {which} you have faithfully recited since your childhood; perhaps you will be successful, perhaps you will scare away disaster.

UST

¹² So continue to perform all your magic spells! Keep doing the many kinds of sorcery that you have been doing for many years! Perhaps doing those things will enable you to be successful; perhaps you will be able to cause your enemies to be afraid of you!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 47:13**ULT**

¹³ You are tired out with your many consultations; let those men stand up and save you—those who chart the heavens and look at the stars, those who declare the new moons—let them save you from what will happen to you.

UST

¹³ But all that has resulted from your doing all the things that the magicians have told you to do is that you have become tired! The men who look at the stars, announce every new moon, predict what will happen should come forward and rescue you from the disasters that you are about to experience.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 47:14**ULT**

¹⁴ See, they will become like stubble. The fire will burn them up. They will not save themselves from the hand of the flame. There are no coals to warm them and no fire for them to sit {by}!

UST

¹⁴ But they cannot do that, because they are like straw that is burning in a fire; they cannot save themselves from being burned up in the flames. They are unable to help you; they are as useless as stubble that burns, but that fire will burn them up rather than let them enjoy the heat.

What will happen to those who chart the heavens and look at the stars, those who declare the new moons?

The men who chart the heavens and look at the stars and those who declare the new moons are the ones who will be like stubble. The fire will burn them up..

Isaiah 47:15**ULT**

¹⁵ This is what they have become to you— those with whom you have worked, and you have bought and sold with them since your youth— they wandered about each one in his own direction; there is no one who can rescue you.”

UST

¹⁵ And they will disappoint you, those with whom you faithfully worked and with whom you traveled and traded when you were younger, and yet all of them keep doing their own foolish things; and when you cry out for help, there is no one who can help you.”

Who would save the daughter of the Chaldeans?

There was no one to save them.

Isaiah 48

Isaiah 48:1

ULT

¹ Hear this, house of Jacob, who are called by the name Israel, and have come from the sperm of Judah; you who swear by the name of Yahweh and invoke the God of Israel, {but} not sincerely nor in a righteous manner.

UST

¹ Descendants of Jacob, who are also descendants of Judah and are now called the people of Israel, listen to Yahweh! You make solemn promises using the name of Yahweh, and you request that the God to whom you Israelite people belong will hear you, but you do not do it sincerely.

What is the House of Jacob called and from whom do they descend?

They are called Israel and they are descended from Judah.

What is Israel doing insincerely and in unrighteousness?

Israel is swearing by the name of Yahweh and invoking the God of Israel insincerely and in unrighteousness.

Isaiah 48:2

ULT

² For they call themselves people of the holy city and trust in the God of Israel. Yahweh of hosts {is} his name.

UST

² You say that you live in the holy city of Jerusalem and you insincerely say that you are relying on the God to whom you people of Israel belong, the one who is Yahweh, commander of the angel armies.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:3

ULT

³ "I have declared the things from long ago; they came out from my mouth, and I made them known; then suddenly I did {them}, and they came to pass.

UST

³ "Long ago I predicted what would happen. And then suddenly, I caused those things to happen.

What did Yahweh do, knowing that Israel was obstinate? (vv3-4)

He declared things from long ago and made them known, he suddenly did them and they came to pass.

Isaiah 48:4**ULT**

⁴ Because I knew that you {were} obstinate, your neck muscles tight as iron, and your forehead like bronze,

UST

⁴ I knew that you people were very stubborn; I knew that your heads were as hard as iron or brass.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:5**ULT**

⁵ therefore I declared {these things} to you beforehand; before they happened I informed you, so you could not say, 'My idol has done them,' or 'My carved figure and my cast metal figure has ordained these things.'

UST

⁵ That is why I told you those things long ago. Long before they occurred, I announced that they would occur, in order that when they happened you could not say 'Our idols did it; our statue carved out of wood or our idol made of metal caused them to happen.'

By declaring these things to Israel before hand what did Yahweh hope to prevent?

Yahweh wanted prevent Israel from saying, "My idol has done them," or "my carved figure, or my cast metal figure has ordained these things."

Isaiah 48:6**ULT**

⁶ You heard about these things; look at all this evidence; and you, will you not admit what I said is true? From now on, I am showing you new things, hidden things that you have not known.

UST

⁶ You have heard those things that I predicted, and now you have seen that they have all occurred, so why do you not admit it? Now I will tell you new things, things that you have not known previously.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:7**ULT**

⁷ Now, and not from previously, they come into being, and before today you have not heard about them, so you will not be able to say, 'Yes, I knew about them.'

UST

⁷ I am causing them to happen now; they are not things I did long ago. So you cannot say, 'We already knew about those things.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:8**ULT**

⁸ You never heard; you did not know; these things were not unfolded to your ears beforehand. For I knew that you have been very deceitful, and that you have been a rebel from birth.

UST

⁸ I will tell you about things that you have never heard about or understood before. Even long ago you did not pay attention to me. I know that you act very deceitfully; you have rebelled against me since you first became a nation.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:9**ULT**

⁹ For the sake of my name I will defer my anger, and {for} my honor I will hold back from destroying you.

UST

⁹ But for my own sake, in order that I will be honored, I will not punish you immediately and I will not completely get rid of you.

Why will Yahweh defer his anger and hold back from destroying Israel?

He will do this for the sake of his own name.

Isaiah 48:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Look, I refined you, but not as silver; I have purified you in the furnace of affliction.

UST

¹⁰ I have purified you, but not the way people refine silver. Instead, I have caused you to suffer very much to get rid of your impure behavior,

How did Yahweh purify Israel?

He purified them in the furnace of affliction.

Isaiah 48:11**ULT**

¹¹ For my own sake, for my own sake I will act; for how can I allow {my name} to be profaned? I will not give my glory to anyone else.

UST

¹¹ But for my own sake I will delay punishing you more; I will delay for my own sake, in order that my reputation will not be damaged. I will not allow any person or any idol to be honored as I deserve to be honored."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:12**ULT**

¹² Listen to me, Jacob, and Israel, whom I called: I {am} he; I {am} the first, I also {am} the last.

UST

¹² "You descendants of Jacob, you people of Israel whom I have chosen, listen to me! Only I am God; I am the one who begins everything and who causes everything to end.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:13**ULT**

¹³ Yes, my hand laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens; {when} I call to them, they stand up together.

UST

¹³ I am the one who laid the foundation of the earth. I stretched out the sky with my hand. And when I tell the stars to appear, they all do what I tell them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Assemble yourselves, all of you, and listen! Who among you has announced these {things}? Yahweh's ally {will} accomplish his purpose against Babylon. He will carry out Yahweh's will {against} the Chaldeans.

UST

¹⁴ All of you, gather together and listen to me. None of your idols has told this to you: I, Yahweh, have chosen Cyrus to assist me, and he will do to Babylon what I want him to do, and his army will destroy the army of Babylonia.

Who did Yahweh summon and for what purpose? (vv14-15)

Yahweh summoned his ally to accomplish his purpose against Babylon.

Isaiah 48:15**ULT**

¹⁵ I, I have spoken, yes, I have summoned him, I have brought him, and he will succeed.

UST

¹⁵ I have said it; I have summoned Cyrus. I have appointed him, and he will accomplish everything that he attempts to do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Come near to me, listen to this: From the beginning I have not spoken in secret; when it happens, I {am} there." Now the Lord Yahweh has sent me, and his Spirit.

UST

¹⁶ Come close to me and listen to what I say. Long ago I told you plainly what would happen, and when those things occurred, I was causing them to happen." And now Yahweh the Lord and his Spirit have sent me, the prophet Isaiah, to give you a message.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:17**ULT**

¹⁷ This is what Yahweh, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel says, "I {am} Yahweh your God, who teaches you how to succeed, who leads you by the way that you should go.

UST

¹⁷ This is what Yahweh, the one who saves you, the Holy God of us Israelites, says: "I am Yahweh, your God; I teach you what is important for you to prosper; I direct you and lead you to do the things that you should do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:18**ULT**

¹⁸ If only you had obeyed my commandments! Then your peace and prosperity would have flowed like a river, and your salvation like the waves of the sea.

UST

¹⁸ I wish that you had paid attention to my commands! If you had done that, things would have gone well for you like a river that flows gently; you would have been successful again and again, like waves that come without ceasing.

What would have happened if Israel had obeyed Yahweh's commandments?

If they had obeyed their peace and prosperity would have flowed like a river and their deliverance like the waves of the sea.

Isaiah 48:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Your descendants would have been as numerous as the sand, and the children from your womb as numerous as the grains of sand; their name would not have been cut off nor blotted out from before me.

UST

¹⁹ Your descendants would have been as many as the grains of sand on the seashore which no one can count. I would not have needed to destroy them; the country of Israel would not have been destroyed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:20**ULT**

²⁰ Come out from Babylon! Flee from the Chaldeans! With the sound of a ringing cry announce it! Make this known, make it go out to the ends of the earth! Say, 'Yahweh has redeemed his servant Jacob.'

UST

²⁰ However, now I tell you, leave Babylon! Flee from being slaves of the people of Babylonia! Proclaim this message joyfully; send it to the most remote places on the earth: 'Yahweh freed the people of Israel from being slaves in Egypt.'

What announcement is to be made to go to the ends of the earth?

The announcement is, "Yahweh has redeemed his servant Jacob".

Isaiah 48:21**ULT**

²¹ They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts; he made the water to flow out of the rock for them; he split open the rock, and the waters gushed out.

UST

²¹ They were not thirsty when he led them through the desert, because he split open the rock and caused water to gush out for them to drink.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 48:22

ULT

²² {There is} no peace for the wicked—says Yahweh.”

UST

²² But things will not go well like that for wicked people,” says Yahweh.

Who did Yahweh say would receive no peace?

Yahweh said there was no peace for the wicked.

Isaiah 49

Isaiah 49:1

ULT

¹ Listen to me, you coastlands! Now give me your attention, you distant peoples. Yahweh has called me from birth by name, when my mother brought me into the world.

UST

¹ All you people who live on islands in the ocean and in other distant areas, pay attention to what I will say! Yahweh called me before I was born; he chose me when I was still in my mother's womb.

What did Yahweh do for his servant Israel? (vv1-2)

Yahweh called him by name from birth. He made Israel's mouth like a sharp sword and hid Israel in the shadow of his hand; he made Israel into a polished arrow; in his quiver Yahweh hid him.

Isaiah 49:2

ULT

² He has made my mouth like a sharp sword; he hid me in the shadow of his hand; he has made me into a polished arrow; in his quiver he has hidden me.

UST

² When I grew up, he caused my messages to be like a sharp sword. He has protected me by his hand. He protects me like someone protects sharp arrows in a quiver.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:3

ULT

³ He said to me, "You {are} my servant, Israel, through whom I show my glory."

UST

³ He said to me, "You will serve my Israelite people, and you will cause people to honor me."

What is Yahweh going to do through Israel?

Yahweh is going to show his glory through Israel.

Isaiah 49:4**ULT**

⁴ But I replied, “Though I thought I have labored in vain, I have spent my energy for nothing, yet my justice {is} with Yahweh, and my reward is with my God.”

UST

⁴ I replied, “My work has been useless; I have used my strength, but I have accomplished nothing worthwhile; everything that I have done has been in vain. However, Yahweh can honor me as he pleases; my God is the one who will reward me as I deserve.”

What is Israel trusting Yahweh for?

Israel says his justice is with Yahweh and his reward is with his God.

Isaiah 49:5**ULT**

⁵ Now Yahweh has spoken—he who formed me from birth {to be} his servant, to restore Jacob again to himself, so that Israel would be gathered to him, for I am honored in the eyes of Yahweh, and my God has become my strength—

UST

⁵ Yahweh formed me when I was in my mother’s womb in order that I would serve him; he appointed me to bring the people of Israel back to himself. Yahweh has honored me, and he is the one who has caused me to be strong.

What is Israel’s job as Yahweh’s servant?

His job is to restore Jacob again to Yahweh and to gather Israel to him.

Isaiah 49:6**ULT**

⁶ and he says, "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to reestablish the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the survivors of Israel. I will make you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be my salvation to the ends of the earth."

UST

⁶ He says to me, "It is not enough for you to serve me by bringing the descendants of Jacob back to worship me again; I also want you to be like a light for the non-Israelites; I want you to take my message about how to be saved to people all over the world."

What is too small a thing for Yahweh's servant?

It is too small a thing to be Yahweh's servant to reestablish the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the survivors of Israel.

What further will Yahweh do for his servant?

He will make his servant a light to the gentiles that his servant may be Yahweh's salvation to the ends of the earth.

Isaiah 49:7**ULT**

⁷ This is what Yahweh says, the Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, to the one whose life is despised, hated by the nations, and a slave of rulers, "Kings will see you and arise, and princes will see you and bow down, because of Yahweh who is faithful, even the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

UST

⁷ Yahweh, the one who saves us, the Holy God of us Israelite people, says to the one who was despised and rejected by the people of many nations, to the one who is the slave of rulers, "Some day kings will stand up to respect you when they see you, and princes will bow down before you because you serve me, Yahweh, the one who faithfully does what I promise. I am the Holy God to whom you Israelites belong, the one who has chosen you."

What will happen to the one who is despised, abhorred by the nations, a slave of rulers?

Kings will see him and arise, and princes will see him and bow down.

Isaiah 49:8**ULT**

⁸ This is what Yahweh says, "At a time I decide to show my favor I will answer you, and in a day of salvation I will help you; I will protect you, and give you as a covenant for the people, to rebuild the land, to reassign the desolate inheritance.

UST

⁸ This is also what Yahweh says: "At a time when it pleases me, I will answer your prayers. On the day when I rescue you from your oppressors, I will help you. I will protect you and enable you to establish an agreement with other nations. And by what you do, I will re-establish your nation of Israel and allow you to live again in your land that was abandoned.

When will Yahweh help and answer his servant?

At a time Yahweh decides to show his favor he will answer his servant, and in a day of salvation Yahweh will protect his servant.

For what purpose is Yahweh's servant given as a covenant for the people?

He is given as a covenant for the people to rebuild the land, to reassign the desolate inheritance.

Isaiah 49:9**ULT**

⁹ You will say to the prisoners, 'Come out;' to those in dark dungeons, 'Show yourselves.' They will graze along the roads, and on all the bare slopes {will be} their pasture.

UST

⁹ You will say to those who were captured and exiled, 'Leave Babylonia and return to your own country!' And you will say to those who are in dark prisons, 'Come out into the light!' When that happens, they will again be like sheep that eat grass in green pastures, on hills where before there was no grass.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:10**ULT**

¹⁰ They will not be hungry or thirsty; nor will the heat or sun beat on them, for he who has mercy on them will lead them; he will guide them to springs of water.

UST

¹⁰ They will not be hungry or thirsty anymore; the hot sun will not beat upon them again. I, Yahweh, will act mercifully toward them and lead them; I will lead them to where there are springs of cool water.

Who will lead the prisoners?

He who has mercy on the prisoners will lead them.

Isaiah 49:11**ULT**

¹¹ Then I will make all my mountains into a road, and make my highways level.”

UST

¹¹ And I will cause the mountains to become as though they were level roads, and I will prepare good highways for my people to travel on, to return to Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:12**ULT**

¹² Look, these will come from far away, some from the north and the west; and others from the land of Sinim.

UST

¹² My people will return from far away; some will come from the north, some from the west, some from southern Egypt.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:13**ULT**

¹³ Sing, heavens, and be joyful, earth; break into singing, you mountains! For Yahweh comforts his people, and will have compassion on his afflicted.

UST

¹³ Because of what Yahweh has promised to do, everything should shout joyfully— the sky and the earth and the mountains should sing, because Yahweh comforts his people, and he will pity those who are suffering.

Why are the heavens, earth and mountains supposed to sing and be joyful?

They are to sing and be joyful because Yahweh comforts his people, and will have compassion on his afflicted.

Isaiah 49:14**ULT**

¹⁴ But Zion said, "Yahweh has forsaken me, and the Lord has forgotten me."

UST

¹⁴ The people of Jerusalem say, "Yahweh has abandoned us; he has forgotten about us."

What was Yahweh's answer to Zion when they complained; "Yahweh has forsaken me, and the Lord has forgotten me."? (vv14-15)

Yahweh's answer to Zion was, "Can a woman forget her baby, nursing at her breast, so she does not have compassion on the son she has borne? Yes, they may forget, but I will not forget you."

Isaiah 49:15**ULT**

¹⁵ "Can a woman forget her baby, nursing at her breast, so she does not have compassion on the son she has borne? Yes, they may forget, but I will not forget you.

UST

¹⁵ But Yahweh replies, "That is not true! Can a woman forget the infant that she is nursing? Can she stop acting kindly toward the child to whom she has given birth? But even if a woman would do that, I will not forget you!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Look, I have inscribed your name on my palms; your walls {are} continually before me.

UST

¹⁶ Note that I have written your names on the palms of my hands; I am always looking at the walls of your city.

What does Yahweh offer as proof of his concern for Zion? (vv16-18)

Yahweh states his proof as follows: "Look, I have inscribed your name on my palms; your walls are continually before me. Your children are hurrying back, while those who destroyed you are departing. Look around and see, they are all gathering and coming to you."

Isaiah 49:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Your children are hurrying back, while those who destroyed you are going away.

UST

¹⁷ Soon your children will be returning there, and all those who destroyed your city will leave.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Look around and see, they are all gathering {and} coming to you. As surely {as} I live—this is Yahweh's declaration—you will surely wear them like jewelry, and you will put them on like a bride.

UST

¹⁸ You will look around and see all of your children coming back to you. As surely as I live, they will be with you for you to show to people like a bride shows her wedding ornaments!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Though you were a waste and desolate, a land that was in ruins, now you will be too small for the inhabitants, and those who devoured you will be far away.

UST

¹⁹ Your land has been ruined and caused to become desolate, but some day it will be filled with people, and those who conquered you will be far away.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:20**ULT**

²⁰ The children born during the time of your bereavement will say in your hearing, 'The place {is} too cramped for us, make room for us, so we may live here.'

UST

²⁰ The children who were born while you were exiled will return to Jerusalem and say, 'This city is too small for us; We need more space to live in!'

What will the children born during the time of Zion's bereavement say?

The will say, "The place is too cramped for us, make room for us, so we may live here."

Isaiah 49:21**ULT**

²¹ Then you will ask yourself, 'Who has borne these children for me? I was bereaved and barren, exiled and divorced. Who has raised these children? Look, I was left all alone; where did these come from?'

UST

²¹ Then you will think to yourselves, 'It is amazing that we have all these children! Most of our children were dead, and the rest were exiled. We were left here alone; so we do not know where all these children have come from! Who raised them?'

What will Zion ask herself?

She will ask, "Who has borne these children for me?" and "Who has raised these children?" and finally, "...where did these come from?"

Isaiah 49:22**ULT**

²² This is what the Lord Yahweh says, "Look, I will raise my hand to the nations; I will raise my signal flag to the peoples. They will bring your sons in {their} arms and carry your daughters on {their} shoulders.

UST

²² This is what Yahweh our God says: "Watch! It is as though I will lift up my hand to signal to those who are not Israelites. And they will carry your little sons and daughters on their shoulders and bring them back to you.

Who will bring Zion's sons and daughters back?

The peoples of the nations will bring them back.

Isaiah 49:23**ULT**

²³ Kings will be your foster fathers, and their queens your nursemaids; they will bow down to you with {their} faces to the earth and lick the dust of your feet; and you will know that I {am} Yahweh; those who wait for me will not be put to shame.”

UST

²³ Kings will serve you and will tutor your children, and their queens will take care of your young children. They will prostrate themselves in front of you and lick the dust off your feet. When that happens, you will know that I am Yahweh; and those who trust in me will never be disappointed.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:24**ULT**

²⁴ Can the spoils be taken from the warrior, or captives be rescued from the fierce? ^[1]

UST

²⁴ There is no one who can snatch valuable things from a soldier who has captured those things in a war; there is no one who can force a tyrant to free the people whom he has captured.

Can the spoils be taken from the warrior or captives be rescued from a tyrant? (vv24-25)

Yes, the captives will be taken away from the warrior and spoils will be rescued; for Yahweh will oppose Zion's adversary and save her children.

Isaiah 49:25**ULT**

²⁵ But this is what Yahweh says, “Yes, the captives will be taken away from the warrior, and spoils will be rescued; for I will oppose your adversary and save your children.

UST

²⁵ But Yahweh says this: “Some day, those who have been captured will go free, and the valuable things that tyrants have snatched from others will be returned, because I will fight against those who fight against you, and I will rescue your children.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 49:26**ULT**

²⁶ I will feed your oppressors with their own flesh; and they will get drunk on their own blood, as if it were wine. Then all mankind will know that I, Yahweh, {am} your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.”

49:24 ^[1], the Hebrew text has , but most modern versions correct it to .

UST

²⁶ And I will cause your enemies to destroy themselves instead of murdering others. When that happens, everyone in the world will know that I, Yahweh, am the one who saves you, the one who rescues you from your enemies; everyone will know that I am the mighty God to whom you descendants of Jacob belong.”

What will Yahweh do to Zion's oppressors?

He will feed their oppressors with their own flesh.

What will all mankind know?

They will know that Yahweh is Zion's savior and redeemer, the mighty one of Jacob.

Isaiah 50

Isaiah 50:1

ULT

¹ This is what Yahweh says, "Where {is} the certificate of divorce with which I divorced your mother? To {which} of my creditors did I sell you? Look, you were sold because of your sins, and because of your rebellion, your mother was sent away.

UST

¹ This is also what Yahweh says: "You Israelite people, do not think that I forced your parents to be exiled to Babylonia like some men send away their wives after giving them a paper on which they state that they were divorcing them! I certainly did not get rid of you like a man who sells his children to get money to pay what he owes. No, the reason that I forced you to be exiled was to punish you because of the sins that you have committed.

Why was Zion sold and her mother sent away?

Zion was sold because of her sins, and because of her rebellion, her mother was sent away.

Isaiah 50:2

ULT

² {Why} did I come but {there was} no one there? {Why} did I call but no one answered? Was my hand too short to ransom you? {Was there} no power in me to rescue you? Look, at my rebuke I dry up the sea; I make the rivers a desert; their fish die for lack of water and rot.

UST

² When I came to you to rescue you, why did no one answer when I called out to you? Was there no one there to buy you back and take you home? Did you think that I do not have the power to rescue you? Think about this: I can speak to a sea and cause it to become dry! I can cause rivers to become deserts with the result that the fish in the rivers die from thirst and rot.

What happens at Yahweh's rebuke? (vv2-3)

At Yahweh's rebuke the sea dries up and he makes the rivers a desert. Yahweh clothes the sky with darkness and cover it with sackcloth.

Isaiah 50:3**ULT**

³ I clothe the sky with darkness; I cover it with sackcloth."

UST

³ I cause the sky to become dark, as though it was wearing black clothes because it was mourning because someone had died."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 50:4**ULT**

⁴ The Lord Yahweh has given me a tongue as one of those who are taught, so that I speak a sustaining word to the weary one; he wakes me morning by morning; he awakens my ear to hear like those who are taught.

UST

⁴ Yahweh our God has taught me to speak for him, in order that I may encourage those who are weary. Each morning he awakens me, in order that I may listen to what he teaches me.

What has Yahweh given to his servant?

He has given his servant a tongue as one of those who is taught.

What did Yahweh's servant do with the tongue Yahweh gave him?

Yahweh's servant spoke a sustaining word to the weary one.

Isaiah 50:5**ULT**

⁵ The Lord Yahweh has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, nor did I turn away backward.

UST

⁵ Yahweh our God has spoken to me, and I have not rejected what he told me; I have accepted it.

Because he was not rebellious and did not turn away backward, what did Yahweh's servant do? (vv5-6)

Yahweh's servant gave his back to those who beat him and his cheeks to those who plucked out his beard; He did not hide his face from acts of shame and spitting.

Isaiah 50:6**ULT**

⁶ I gave my back to those who beat {me}, and my cheeks to those who plucked out my beard; I did not hide my face from acts of shame and spitting.

UST

⁶ I allowed people to beat me on my back and to pull out the whiskers in my beard because they hated me. I did not turn away from them when they made fun of me and spat on me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 50:7**ULT**

⁷ For the Lord Yahweh will help me; therefore I am not disgraced; so I have made my face like flint, for I know that I will not be put to shame.

UST

⁷ But because the Lord Yahweh helps me, I will never be humiliated. Therefore I am determined to face difficulties, and I know that nothing will cause me to be ashamed.

Why does Yahweh's servant say he is not disgraced?

The servant says he is not disgraced because the Lord Yahweh will help him.

Isaiah 50:8**ULT**

⁸ {He} who will justify me {is} close by. Who will oppose me? Let us stand and confront one another. Who {is} my accuser? Let him come near to me.

UST

⁸ God is near to me; he will show others that I have been right to trust him, so if anyone stands in front of me and accuses me in a court, he will not be able to show that I have done anything that is wrong.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 50:9**ULT**

⁹ See, the Lord Yahweh will help me. {Who} will declare me guilty? See, they will all wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

UST

⁹ The Lord Yahweh defends me in court, so no one will be able to condemn me. All those who accuse me will disappear like old clothes that have been eaten by moths.

What will happen to those who accuse Yahweh's servant and declare him guilty?

His accusers will all wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Isaiah 50:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Who among you fears Yahweh? Who obeys the voice of his servant? Who walks in deep darkness without light? He should trust in the name of Yahweh and lean on his God.

UST

¹⁰ If you honor Yahweh and do what his servant tells you to do, even if you are walking in darkness, and it seems that there is no light, trust in Yahweh your God to help you; depend on him.

What should the one who fears Yahweh, who obeys the voice of his servant and the one who walks in deep darkness without light, do?

He should trust in the name of Yahweh and lean on his God.

Isaiah 50:11**ULT**

¹¹ Look, all you who light fires, who equip {yourselves} with torches: walk in the light of your fire and in the flames that you have ignited. This is what you have received from me: You will lie down in a place of pain.

UST

¹¹ But you people who oppose me by lighting your own fires, and by carrying your own flaming torches: go ahead and live according to your own knowledge, according to what you think is best. Yahweh tells you what will happen to you: he will make you die in great torment!

What will Yahweh's servant do to all who kindle a fire, who gird on flames?

Yahweh's servant will cause them to lie down in a place of pain.

Isaiah 51

Isaiah 51:1

ULT

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek Yahweh: look at the rock {from which} you were chiseled and to the quarry {from which} you were cut.

UST

¹ Yahweh says, "You people who desire to act righteously, who want to do what I want you to do, listen to me! Think about Abraham! It is as though he were a huge rock cliff; and when you people of Israel became a nation, it was as though I had cut you like stones from that rocky cliff.

What did Yahweh say those who pursue righteousness should look to?

Yahweh said to look at the rock from which you were chiseled and to the quarry from which you were cut.

Isaiah 51:2

ULT

² Look at Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who bore you; for {when} he was a {lone} individual, I called him. I blessed him and made him many.

UST

² Think about your ancestor Abraham and his wife Sarah, of whom all of you are descendants. When I first spoke to Abraham, he had no children. But after I blessed him, he had a huge number of descendants.

What did Yahweh do to Abraham?

Yahweh called him, blessed him and made him many.

Isaiah 51:3

ULT

³ Yes, Yahweh will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places; her wilderness he made like Eden, and her desert plains beside the Jordan River valley like the garden of Yahweh; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving, and the sound of singing.

UST

³ Some day I, Yahweh, will encourage Abraham's descendants again, and I will comfort all the people who live in the ruins of Jerusalem. The deserts in that area will become like Eden; it will be like the garden of Yahweh. All the people there will be joyful and happy; they will thank me and sing.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:4**ULT**

⁴ "Be attentive to me, my people; and listen to me, my people! For I will issue a decree, and I will make my justice to be a light for the nations.

UST

⁴ My people of Judah, listen carefully to me, because I command you to proclaim my laws; the right things that I will do will be like a light for the people of all the nations.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:5**ULT**

⁵ My righteousness is near; my salvation will go out, and my arm will judge the nations; the coastlands will wait for me; for my arm they will eagerly wait.

UST

⁵ I will soon rescue you and them; by my power I will rule over the people of the earth and bless them. The people who live in the most distant lands on earth will wait for me to help them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:6**ULT**

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the sky, and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish away like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and its inhabitants will die like flies. But my salvation will continue forever, and my righteousness will never stop working.

UST

⁶ Look up at the sky, and look at the earth; see what they are like now, because some day the sky will disappear like smoke, and the earth will wear out like old clothes wear out, and people on the earth will die like flies. But I will rescue you, and you will remain free forever, and everyone will know what I do and I will always do what is right.

What will happen to the heavens, the earth and its inhabitants?

The heavens will vanish away like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment; and its inhabitants will die like flies.

What will continue forever and never stop working?

Yahweh's righteousness will continue forever and his righteousness will never stop working.

Isaiah 51:7**ULT**

⁷ Listen to me, you who know what is right, you people who {have} my law in your heart: Do not fear the insults of men, nor be disheartened by their abuse.

UST

⁷ You people who know what things are right to do, and who know in your inner beings what is written in my laws, listen to me! Do not be afraid of people who taunt you; do not be disturbed when people revile you,

To whom is this statement directed to: “Do not fear the insult of men, nor be disheartened by their abuse...”?

That statement is directed to those who know what is right and the people who have Yahweh’s law in their heart.

Isaiah 51:8**ULT**

⁸ For the moth will eat them up like a garment, and the worm will eat them like wool; but my righteousness will be forever, and my salvation to all generations.”

UST

⁸ because some day they will be destroyed like clothing that moths have eaten, like wool garments that have been eaten by worms. Everyone will know what I do and I will always do what is right; and I will save you, and you will be saved forever.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:9**ULT**

⁹ Awake, awake, clothe yourself with strength, arm of Yahweh. Awake as in the days of old, the generations of ancient times. Is it not you who crushed Rahab, you who pierced the monster?

UST

⁹ Yahweh, wake up and do something for us! Show us how strong you are! Do mighty things like you did long ago, when you stabbed Rahab, the sea monster, and cut it into pieces.

Who crushed the sea monster, dried up the sea and made the depths of the sea into a way for the redeemed to pass through? (vv9-10)

The arm of Yahweh did these things.

Isaiah 51:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Did you not dry up the sea, the waters of the great deep, and make the depths of the sea into a way for the redeemed to pass through?

UST

¹⁰ Surely you are the one who dried up the sea, and made a path through that deep water in order that your people could cross it!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:11**ULT**

¹¹ The ransomed of Yahweh will return and come to Zion with cries of joy and with gladness forever on their heads; and gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and mourning will flee away.

UST

¹¹ And those whom Yahweh will rescue from being exiled in Babylonia will similarly return to Jerusalem singing. Their being joyful forever will be like a crown on their heads. They will not be sad or mourn anymore; they will be completely joyful and happy.

What will overtake and what will flee away from the ransomed of Yahweh when they return and come to Zion?

Joy will overtake them and sorrow and mourning will flee away.

Isaiah 51:12**ULT**

¹² "I, I, {am} he who comforts you. Why {are} you afraid of men, {who} will die, the sons of mankind, {who} are made like grass?"

UST

¹² Yahweh says, "I am the one who encourages you. So why are you afraid of humans who will wither and disappear like grass?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:13**ULT**

¹³ Why have you forgotten Yahweh your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth? You are in constant dread every day because of the hot fury of the oppressor when {he} {decides} to destroy. Where {is} the fury of the oppressor?

UST

¹³ You should not have forgotten me, Yahweh, the one who created your nation, the one who stretched out the sky and laid the foundations of the earth. You should not be afraid of those who are angry with you and want to destroy you. You should not be afraid of them now, because those angry people have now disappeared!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:14**ULT**

¹⁴ The one who is bent down, Yahweh will hurry to release; he will not die and go down to the pit, nor will he lack bread.

UST

¹⁴ Soon you people, whom your enemies have caused to be slaves in Babylonia, will be freed! You will not remain in prison, and you will not die of hunger,

What will Yahweh do for the one who is bent down?

Yahweh will hurry to release him.

Isaiah 51:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For I {am} Yahweh your God, who churns up the sea so that its waves roar—Yahweh of hosts {is} his name.

UST

¹⁵ because I am Yahweh, your God, the one who stirs up the sea and causes the waves to roar; I am Yahweh, commander of the angel armies!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:16**ULT**

¹⁶ I have placed my words in your mouth, and I have covered you in the shadow of my hand, that I may plant the heavens, lay the foundations of the earth, and say to Zion, "You {are} my people."

UST

¹⁶ I have given you my message to proclaim, and I have protected you by my hand. I have done this in order to stretch out the sky and lay the foundation of the earth. And I have done this in order to say to you Israelites, "You are my people!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Awake, awake, stand up, Jerusalem, you who have drunk out of the hand of Yahweh from the bowl of his anger; you who have drunk out of the bowl, down to the dregs from the cup of staggering.

UST

¹⁷ You people of Jerusalem, wake up! You have experienced Yahweh severely punishing you. Yahweh has caused you to suffer much and to experience disaster. Yahweh gave you this cup to drink, but this was Yahweh's cup! He forced you to drink every drop out of that large cup, down to the bottom of the bowl. And that drink made you stagger like you had drunk strong wine. This strong wine represents the anger of God, and you are to drink all of it!

What did Jerusalem drink from the hand of Yahweh?

They drank the cup of Yahweh's anger; they drank the bowl, the cup of staggering.

Isaiah 51:18**ULT**

¹⁸ {There is} no one among all the sons she has born to guide her; {there is} no one among all the sons that she has raised to take her by the hand.

UST

¹⁸ Now you do not have any children who are able to take your hand and guide you. You cannot help yourself.

Who among all the son's of Jerusalem has been born to guide her?

There is no one among all the sons she has born to guide her.

Isaiah 51:19**ULT**

¹⁹ These two {troubles} happened to you—who will grieve with you?— desolation and destruction, and the famine and the sword. {Who} will comfort you? ^[1]

UST

¹⁹ You have experienced these disasters: Your country has become desolate; your cities have been destroyed; many people have died from hunger; many people have been killed by your enemies' swords. Now there is no one to weep with you and sympathize with you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:20**ULT**

²⁰ Your sons have fainted; they lie at every street corner, like an antelope in a net; they are filled with the anger of Yahweh, the rebuke of your God.

UST

²⁰ Your children have fainted and lie at the corner of every street; they are as helpless as an antelope that has been caught in a net. What has happened to them is because Yahweh has been very angry with them; he has rebuked them severely.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:21**ULT**

²¹ But now hear this, you oppressed one and drunken one, but not drunk with wine:

UST

²¹ So now, you people who have suffered much, you who were acting as if you were drunk because you were drinking from his cup. But in truth, it is not because you have drunk out of a cup filled with wine, but because of something else that Yahweh will do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:22**ULT**

²² Your Lord Yahweh, your God, {who} pleads the cause of his people, says this, “See, I have taken the cup of staggering from your hand— the bowl, which is the cup of my anger—so that you will not drink it again.

UST

²² Yahweh, your Lord and your God, the one who argues your case to defend you, he says this: “I have taken away that cup that holds my anger toward you, and I made you experience my anger when I made you drink from that cup. But now I have taken it from you so that you will never drink of it again.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 51:23**ULT**

²³ I will put it into the hand of your tormentors, those who have said to you, ‘Lie down, that we may walk over you’; you made your back like the ground and like the street for them to walk on.”

51:19 ^[1], most modern versions correct this passage to

UST

²³ Instead, I will cause those who have tormented you to suffer; I will severely punish those who said to you, ‘Lie down in order that we may walk on you; lie down on your stomachs in order that your backs will be like streets that we can walk on.’”

After Yahweh takes away the cup of staggering from Jerusalem who will he give it to?

He will put it into the hand of Jerusalem’s tormentors.

Isaiah 52

Isaiah 52:1

ULT

¹ Awake, awake, put on your strength, Zion; put on your beautiful garments, Jerusalem, holy city; for never again will the uncircumcised or the unclean enter you.

UST

¹ You people who live in the holy city of Jerusalem, wake up! Be strong again! Show that your city is beautiful and glorious; uncircumcised foreigners, those who do not honor Yahweh, will never again enter your city to attack you.

What will never again happen to Jerusalem?

Never again will the uncircumcised or the unclean enter Jerusalem.

Isaiah 52:2

ULT

² Shake yourself off from the dust; arise and sit, Jerusalem; take off the chain from your neck, captive, daughter of Zion.

UST

² People of Jerusalem, get up from where you have been sitting in the dust, and sit down properly! You people who have returned from being exiled, take off from your neck the chains that the Babylonians fastened around your necks,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 52:3

ULT

³ For this is what Yahweh says, "You were sold for nothing, and you will be redeemed without money."

UST

³ because this is what Yahweh says: "When you were sent as captives to Babylonia, no one paid to make that happen. So now you will be brought back, and no money will be paid to anyone for your release."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 52:4**ULT**

⁴ For this is what the Lord Yahweh says, “In the beginning my people went down to live temporarily in Egypt; and Assyria has oppressed them for no good {reason.}

UST

⁴ Yahweh our Lord also says this: “Long ago, my people went to Egypt to live there. Later the soldiers of Assyria oppressed them.

Who had recently oppressed Jerusalem?

Assyria had recently oppressed them.

Isaiah 52:5**ULT**

⁵ Now what do I have here—this is Yahweh’s declaration—seeing that my people are taken away for nothing? Those who rule over them mock—this is Yahweh’s declaration—and my name {is} blasphemed continually all day long. ^[1]

UST

⁵ But now think about what is happening: My people are being forced to be slaves again, this time by the people of Babylonia. They have taken my people away, but they never declared any just reason for taking them captive. And the rulers of Babylon boast and make fun of them (as I, Yahweh, have said they would do), and the other people groups in the world despise the mention of my name.

In that day why will Yahweh’s people know Yahweh’s name? (vv5-6)

They will know Yahweh’s name because his name is slandered continually all the day.

Isaiah 52:6**ULT**

⁶ Therefore my people will know my name; {they will know} in that day that I {am} the one who says, “Yes, {it is} I!”

UST

⁶ But after that, my people will love me and honor me; when that happens, they will know that I am the one who said that this would happen. I am the one who speaks, and I say, ‘Yes, this is Yahweh who is speaking to you.’

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 52:7**ULT**

⁷ How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, who announces peace, who bears good tidings, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

UST

⁷ It is a wonderful thing when messengers come from across the mountains and bring good news, the news about God giving us peace and saving us, the news that the God to whom we Israelite people belong is now showing everyone his power as king!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 52:8**ULT**

⁸ Listen, your watchmen raise {their} voices, together they shout for joy, for they will see, every eye of theirs, Yahweh's return to Zion.

UST

⁸ The watchmen who are guarding the city will shout and sing joyfully, because while they are watching, they will all see Yahweh returning to Jerusalem.

Who will see Yahweh's return to Zion?

Every eye of Zion's watchmen will see Yahweh's return to Zion.

Isaiah 52:9**ULT**

⁹ Break out into joyful singing together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for Yahweh has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

UST

⁹ Jerusalem was ruined, but the people who are there now should start to sing joyfully, because Yahweh will encourage his people; he will set his people free and bring them back to Jerusalem.

Why should the ruins of Jerusalem break forth into joyful singing together? (vv9-10)

They should do this because Yahweh has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. Yahweh has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations.

Isaiah 52:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Yahweh has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations; all the earth will see the salvation of our God.

UST

¹⁰ Yahweh will show all the nations that he is holy and powerful. People in the most remote places on earth will know that he has rescued his people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 52:11**ULT**

¹¹ Leave, leave, go out from there; touch nothing unclean; leave from her midst; purify yourselves, you who carry the vessels of Yahweh.

UST

¹¹ So leave the places where you were taken to when you were captured, where everything is unacceptable to God. You men who are carrying the items used in the temple of Yahweh, leave there and return to Jerusalem, and purify yourselves in order to be acceptable to worship God.

What are those who carry the vessels of Yahweh to do?

They are to leave, touch nothing unclean and purify themselves.

Isaiah 52:12**ULT**

¹² For you will not go out in a rush, nor will you leave in a panic; for Yahweh will go before you; and the God of Israel {will be} your rearguard.

UST

¹² But it will not be necessary for you to leave suddenly, to flee in panic, because Yahweh will go in front of you; and he will also protect you from being attacked at the rear while you travel.

Why do Yahweh's people not need to be in a rush or panic when they leave?

They don't need to be in a rush or panic because Yahweh will go before them and the God of Israel will be their rearguard.

Isaiah 52:13**ULT**

¹³ Look, my servant will act wisely; he will be high and lifted up, and he will be exalted.

UST

¹³ Listen carefully! My servant will act wisely and do all that Yahweh wants him to do, and he will be honored more than anyone else.

What will Yahweh's servant do?

He will deal wisely and be successful; he will be exalted and lifted high, and will be very exalted.

Isaiah 52:14**ULT**

¹⁴ As many were horrified at you— his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man, and his form no longer looked like anything human.

UST

¹⁴ But many people will be appalled when they see what has happened to him. Because he was beaten very badly, his appearance will be changed; people will hardly recognize that he is a human.

What happened to the appearance of Yahweh's servant?

His appearance was disfigured from human appearance.

Isaiah 52:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Even so, my servant will sprinkle many nations and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For that which they had not been told, they will see, and that which they had not heard, they will understand.

52:5 ^[1], some versions identify a different Hebrew word meaning .

UST

¹⁵ But he will purify the people of many nations by sprinkling them clean; even kings will be silent when they stand in front of him, because they will see someone that no one had told them about before, and they will understand things that they had not heard about before.

What will kings do because of Yahweh's servant?

Kings will close their mouths because of him.

Isaiah 53

Isaiah 53:1

ULT

¹ Who has believed what they heard from us, and to whom has the arm of Yahweh been revealed?

UST

¹ Who will believe what we have heard about God's servant? Who will see what Yahweh does by his great power?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 53:2

ULT

² For he grew up before Yahweh like a sapling, and like a sprout out of parched earth; he had no remarkable appearance or splendor; when we saw him, {there was} no beauty to attract us.

UST

² While God watches, his servant will grow up fragile like a very young tree, like a weak young plant that shoots up, a stem that is growing in dry ground. There will be nothing beautiful or majestic about him, nothing that would cause us to want to look at him.

How did Yahweh's servant grow up?

He grew up before Yahweh like a sapling, and like a sprout out of parched earth.

What did Yahweh's servant look like?

He had no remarkable appearance or splendor; when we saw him, there was no beauty to attract us to him.

Isaiah 53:3

ULT

³ He was despised and rejected by people; a man of sorrows, and one familiar with pain. Like one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised; and we considered him insignificant.

UST

³ People will despise and reject him. He will endure much pain, and he will suffer much. Because his face will be very disfigured, people will not want to look at him; he will not even look human any more; people will despise him and think that he is not worth paying any attention to.

How was Yahweh's servant received by people?

He was despised and rejected by people and considered insignificant.

Isaiah 53:4**ULT**

⁴ But surely he has borne our sicknesses and carried our sorrows; yet we thought he was being punished by God, struck by God, and afflicted.

UST

⁴ But he will be punished for the sicknesses within our lives; he will endure great pain for us. But we will think that he is being punished by God, afflicted for his own sins.

What did Yahweh's servant do for us?

He bore our sicknesses and carried our sorrows.

Isaiah 53:5**ULT**

⁵ But he was pierced because of our rebellious deeds; he was crushed because of our sins. The punishment for our peace was on him, and with his wounds we are healed.

UST

⁵ But people will pierce him through and kill him because of the evil things that we did; they will wound him because of our sins. They will beat him in order that things may go well with us; because they will whip him, we will be healed.

Why was Yahweh's servant pierced and crushed?

He was pierced for our rebellious deeds and crushed because of our sins.

What did the servant's punishment and wounds do for us?

His punishment brought us peace and his wounds healed us.

Isaiah 53:6**ULT**

⁶ We all like sheep have gone astray; we have each turned to his own way, and Yahweh has placed on him the iniquity of us all.

UST

⁶ All of us have gone away from God like sheep who have strayed away from their shepherd. We have turned away from doing the things that God wants in order to do the things that we want. We deserve to be punished, but Yahweh will punish him instead for all of our sins.

How are we like sheep?

We are like sheep because we have all gone astray; we have each turned to his own way.

Isaiah 53:7**ULT**

⁷ He was oppressed; yet when he humbled himself, he did not open his mouth; as a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

UST

⁷ He will be abused and caused to suffer, but he will not say anything to complain. They will lead him to where they will execute him, like they lead a lamb to where it will be slaughtered. And like a sheep does not bleat when the shearer cuts off its wool, he will not say anything to defend himself when he is killed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 53:8**ULT**

⁸ By coercion and judgment he was condemned; who from that generation thought anymore about him? But he was cut off from the land of the living; because of the offenses of my people the penalty was put on him.

UST

⁸ After he is arrested and put on trial, he will be taken away and executed. And no one at that time will think anything more about him. For he will die; he will receive all the penalties brought on by the curses against us for the wrong things we have done.

What methods were used to condemn Yahweh's servant?

Coercion and judgment were the methods used to condemn him.

Why was Yahweh's servant cut off from the land of the living?

He was cut off because of the offense of his people.

Isaiah 53:9**ULT**

⁹ They placed his grave with the criminals, with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, nor {had there been any} deceit in his mouth.

UST

⁹ Although he will never have done any wrong or deceived anyone, people will place his corpse where wicked people are buried, and in a rich man's grave.

Had Yahweh's servant done anything wrong?

No. He had done no violence nor had there been any deceit in his mouth.

Isaiah 53:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Yet it was Yahweh's will to crush him and make {him} ill. When he makes his life an offering for sin, he will see {his} offspring, he will prolong {his} days, and Yahweh's purpose will be accomplished through him.

UST

¹⁰ But it will be Yahweh's will that he be afflicted and caused to suffer. When he dies as an offering for your own sin, he will benefit many, many people, as if they were his children; he will live a long time after he dies and becomes alive again, and he will accomplish everything that Yahweh has planned.

Why was it Yahweh's will to crush his servant?

It was Yahweh's will so that Yahweh's purpose might be accomplished through him.

Isaiah 53:11**ULT**

¹¹ After the suffering of his life, he will see light {and} be satisfied by his knowledge. ^[1] My righteous servant will justify many; he will bear their iniquities. ^[2]

UST

¹¹ When he sees all that he will accomplish because of his suffering, he will be satisfied. And because of what will have happened to him, Yahweh's righteous servant, he will cause the guilt of many people to be ended, because he will bear the guilt for their sins.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 53:12**ULT**

¹² Therefore will I give him his portion among the multitudes, and he will divide the spoils with the many, because he exposed himself to death and was numbered with the transgressors. He bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors.

53:11 ^[1] , some modern versions have .

53:11 ^[2] . Some modern versions have .

UST

¹² So Yahweh will share with many people the spoils he has won from his enemies. His servant will be like a king who divides the spoils among his soldiers, because he put himself in danger of dying and did in fact die. Even though people had considered him to be a sinner, he removed the guilt of many people, and he interceded for those who have done things that are wrong.

Why will Yahweh give his servant his portion among the multitudes?

Yahweh will give his servant his portion because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors. He bore the sins of many and made intercession for the transgressions.

Isaiah 54

Isaiah 54:1

ULT

¹ “Sing, you barren woman, you {who} have not given birth; break into joyful singing and cry aloud, you {who} have never been in birth labor. For the children of the desolate one {are} more than the children of the married woman,” says Yahweh.

UST

¹ Yahweh says, “You people of Jerusalem, start to sing! You who are like women who have never given birth to children, sing loudly and shout joyfully, because you, who are like childless women who have been abandoned by their husbands, will soon have more children than women who have never had any children.

Why does Yahweh say the barren woman should sing?

He says she should sing, for the children of the desolate one are more than the children of the married woman.

Isaiah 54:2

ULT

² “Make your tent larger and spread your tent curtains farther out, unsparingly; lengthen your ropes and strengthen your stakes.

UST

² Make your tents larger; make them wider, and fasten them firmly with tent pegs.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 54:3

ULT

³ For you will spread out to the right hand and to the left, and your descendants will conquer nations and resettle desolate cities.

UST

³ You will need to make your city much larger because soon you and your descendants will spread all over the land. They will force the people of other nations to leave where they are, and you will live again in the cities that people had previously abandoned.

What will the descendants of Zion do?

They will conquer nations and resettle desolate cities.

Isaiah 54:4**ULT**

⁴ Do not fear for you will not be ashamed, nor be discouraged for you will not be disgraced; you will forget the shame of your youth and the disgrace of your abandonment.

UST

⁴ Do not be afraid; you will no longer be ashamed. Previously you were ashamed because your enemies conquered you and caused your nation to be like a widow, but soon you will not even remember that.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 54:5**ULT**

⁵ For your Maker {is} your husband; Yahweh of hosts is his name. The Holy One of Israel {is} your Redeemer; he is called the God of the whole earth.

UST

⁵ I, Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, the Holy One of Israel, who rules over the whole earth, the one who created you, will be like a husband to you.

Who is Zion's husband?

Yahweh of Hosts, Zion's maker, is their husband.

Isaiah 54:6**ULT**

⁶ For Yahweh has called you back as a wife abandoned and grieved in spirit, like a woman married young and rejected," says your God.

UST

⁶ Your nation was like a woman whose husband left her, and caused you to be very sad; you were like a young woman who got married when she was very young, and then her husband abandoned her.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 54:7**ULT**

⁷ “For a short time I abandoned you, but with great compassion I will gather you.

UST

⁷ I abandoned you people of Jerusalem for a while, but now I am saying, ‘I will take you back.’

What did Yahweh do to Israel?

He abandoned her for a short time.

What will Yahweh do for Israel?

With great compassion Yahweh will gather them.

Isaiah 54:8**ULT**

⁸ In a flood of anger I hid my face from you momentarily; but with everlasting covenant faithfulness I will have mercy on you— says Yahweh, the one who rescues you.

UST

⁸ I was very angry with you for a while, and I turned away from you. But I will act mercifully toward you and I will faithfully love you forever. That is what I, Yahweh, your rescuer, say to you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 54:9**ULT**

⁹ For this is like the waters of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah would never again pass over the earth, so have I sworn that I will not be angry with you or rebuke you.

UST

⁹ During the time that Noah lived, I solemnly promised that I would never again allow a flood to cover the earth. So now I solemnly promise that I will not be angry with you again and rebuke you.

What did Yahweh swear concerning Israel?

He swore he would no longer be angry with them or rebuke them.

Isaiah 54:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Though the mountains may fall and the hills be shaken, yet my steadfast love will not turn away from you, nor will my covenant of peace be shaken— says Yahweh, who has mercy on you.

UST

¹⁰ Even if the mountains and hills shake and collapse, I will not stop faithfully loving you, and I will not cancel my covenant to cause things to go well for you. That is what I, Yahweh, who acts mercifully, say.

What will not be shaken and what will not depart from Israel?

Yahweh's covenant of peace with Israel will not be shaken and his covenant faithfulness will not depart from Israel.

Isaiah 54:11**ULT**

¹¹ Afflicted one, storm-driven {and} uncomforted one, look, I will set your pavement in turquoise, and lay your foundations with sapphires.

UST

¹¹ You people of Jerusalem, your enemies acted very violently toward you; it was as though your city had been battered by a severe storm, and no one helped you. But now I will cause your city to be rebuilt with stones made of turquoise, and will cause the foundations of the city to be made of sapphires.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 54:12**ULT**

¹² I will make your pinnacles of rubies and your gates of sparkling stones, and your outer wall of beautiful stones.

UST

¹² I will cause the towers on the city wall to be made of rubies, and all the gates and outer walls of the city will be made of other very valuable stones.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 54:13**ULT**

¹³ Then all your children {will be} taught by Yahweh; and the peace of your children {will be} great.

UST

¹³ I will be the one who will teach your children and cause things to go well with you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 54:14**ULT**

¹⁴ In righteousness you will be established, and you will be far from oppression, for you will not fear; and from terror, for it will not come near to you.

UST

¹⁴ Your government will be strong because it will act justly; no one will oppress you; you will not be afraid, because nothing will come near you that will make you fear.

What will Israel no longer experience?

Israel will no longer experience persecution.

Isaiah 54:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Look, if anyone stirs up trouble, it will not be from me; anyone who stirs up trouble with you will fall in defeat.

UST

¹⁵ If any army attacks you, it will not be because I have incited them to do that, and you will defeat anyone who attacks you.

What will happen to anyone who stirs up trouble for Israel?

Anyone who stirs up trouble for Israel will fall in defeat.

Isaiah 54:16**ULT**

¹⁶ See, I have created the craftsman, who blows the burning coals and forges weapons as his work, and I have created the destroyer to destroy.

UST

¹⁶ Think about this: Blacksmiths fan the coals to make a very hot flame in order to produce weapons that can be used in battles, but I am the one who has produced blacksmiths! And I am also the one who created people who destroy other people and cities.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 54:17**ULT**

¹⁷ No weapon that is formed against you will succeed; and you will condemn everyone who accuses you. This {is} the heritage of the servants of Yahweh, and their vindication from me—this is Yahweh's declaration."

UST

¹⁷ You will not be defeated by soldiers using weapons that they have made to attack you, and when others try to accuse you, you will prove that they are wrong, and you will condemn them to punishment. That is the reward for the people who serve Yahweh. I will defend them and show everyone else that they are right to trust me; that is what I, Yahweh, promise."

What will happen to everyone who accuses Israel?

Israel will condemn them.

Isaiah 55

Isaiah 55:1

ULT

¹ "Come, everyone who is thirsty, come to the water, and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

UST

¹ "Come here! All you people who are in exile, and listen to me! If you are thirsty, now is the time for you to come to me and get your water! Now those who had no money, you can come and buy wine and milk from me, the finest wine and the best milk! You can get what you need from me, and you can buy it now! You can buy it even though you do not have any money, and even though you could never afford it!

What are those who have no money told to buy?

They are told to buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

Isaiah 55:2

ULT

² Why do you weigh out silver for {what is} not bread, and why do you labor for {what} does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in fatness.

UST

² Why do you spend money to buy things that do not supply what you really need? Why do you work hard to get money to buy things that do not truly satisfy you? Pay attention to what I say and acquire what is really good! If you come to me, then in your heart you will truly be happy.

What are those who thirst told to eat?

They are told to eat what is good.

Isaiah 55:3**ULT**

³ Turn your ears and come to me! Listen, that you may live! I will make an everlasting covenant with you—my reliable, faithful love that I promised to David.

UST

³ Listen to me and come to me; pay attention to me, and if you do that, you will have new life within you. I will make a covenant with you that will last forever to faithfully love you like my love for King David.

Who has Yahweh placed as a witness to the nations and a leader and commander to the peoples? (vv3-4)

Yahweh has placed David in that position.

Isaiah 55:4**ULT**

⁴ Look, I have placed him {as} a witness to the nations, as a leader and commander to the peoples.

UST

⁴ By what he did, I showed my power to many people groups; I caused him to be a leader and commander over the people of many nations.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 55:5**ULT**

⁵ Look, you will call to a nation that you did not know; and a nation that did not know you will run to you because of Yahweh your God, the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.”

UST

⁵ And similarly, you will summon people of other nations to come to you, nations that previously you have not heard about, and they had not heard about you; and they will come to you quickly because they will have heard that I, Yahweh, your God, the Holy One of Israel, have honored you.

Why will a nation that did not know Israel run to them?

They will run to Israel because Yahweh their God, the Holy One of Israel has glorified them.

Isaiah 55:6**ULT**

⁶ Seek Yahweh while he may be found; call on him while he is nearby.

UST

⁶ Seek to know Yahweh while it is still possible for you to do that; call to Yahweh while he is near!

When should Israel seek and call upon Yahweh?

They should seek him while he may be found; call upon him while he is nearby.

Isaiah 55:7**ULT**

⁷ Let the wicked leave his path, and the man of sin his thoughts. Let him return to Yahweh, and he will pity him, and to our God, who will abundantly forgive him.

UST

⁷ Wicked people should abandon their wicked behavior, and evil people should stop thinking what is evil. They should turn to Yahweh, and if they do that, he will act mercifully toward them; they should turn to Yahweh, their God, because he will fully pardon them for all the wicked things that they have done.

What are the wicked and the man of sin to do?

Let the wicked leave his path, and the man of sin his thoughts.

What will Yahweh do for the one who returns to him?

Yahweh will pity him and will abound in forgiving him.

Isaiah 55:8**ULT**

⁸ "For my thoughts {are} not your thoughts, nor {are} your ways my ways—this is Yahweh's declaration—

UST

⁸ Yahweh declares that what he thinks is not the same as what you think, and what he does is very different from what you do.

Why are Yahweh's thoughts and ways not Israel's thoughts and ways? (vv8-9)

This is so because as the heavens are higher than the earth so are Yahweh's ways higher than their ways and Yahweh's thought than Israel's thoughts.

Isaiah 55:9**ULT**

⁹ for {as} the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

UST

⁹ Just as you people on the earth can never reach the sky, the thoughts of Yahweh are that much higher than the way you think. His ways are always different from what you do. And so, you can be sure that you can never fully understand the way Yahweh thinks or know the reasons for what Yahweh does.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 55:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For as the rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return there unless they saturate the earth and make it produce and sprout and give seed to the farmer who sows and bread to the eater,

UST

¹⁰ Yahweh sends the rain and snow down from the sky, and they water the ground. When the ground becomes moist, it causes plants to sprout and grow, with the result that the soil produces seed for the farmer to plant and grain to produce flour to make bread for people to eat.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 55:11**ULT**

¹¹ so also my word will be that goes from my mouth—it will not return to me empty, but it will achieve {the purpose} for which I sent it.

UST

¹¹ And similarly, the things that I promise to do, I will always cause to happen; my promises will always come true. They will accomplish the things for which I spoke them.

What will happen to the words that go from Yahweh's mouth?

They will accomplish that which Yahweh wishes and it will succeed in that for which he sent it.

Isaiah 55:12**ULT**

¹² For you will go out in joy and be led along peacefully; the mountains and the hills will break out in joyful shouts before you, and all the trees of the fields will clap {their} hands.

UST

¹² This is why you will leave Babylon joyfully; you will have peace as Yahweh leads you out. It will be as though the hills and mountains sang joyfully, and the trees in the fields clapped their hands.

What is the everlasting sign that will not be cut off? (vv12-13)

This is the sign: Israel will go out in joy and be led along peacefully. the mountains and the hills will break out in joyful shouts before them. All the trees of the fields will clap their hands. Instead of the thorn bushes, evergreens will grow and instead of the brier, the myrtle tree will grow.

Isaiah 55:13**ULT**

¹³ Instead of the thornbushes, the cypress will grow; and instead of the brier, the myrtle tree will grow, and it will be for Yahweh, for his name, as an everlasting sign that will not be cut off."

UST

¹³ Instead of thornbushes and briars, pine trees and myrtle trees will grow in your land. As a result of that, people will honor Yahweh much more; and what Yahweh does will cause everyone to remember what he has promised, and they will honor him."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 56

Isaiah 56:1

ULT

¹ This is what Yahweh says, "Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation {is} near, and my righteousness is about to be revealed.

UST

¹ Yahweh says to all the people of Judah, "Do the things that are fair and right, because I will soon come to rescue you; I will soon show everyone that you have been right to trust me.

Why did Yahweh say to observe what is right and do what is just? (vv1-2)

He said this because his deliverance is near and his vindication is about to be revealed.

Isaiah 56:2

ULT

² Blessed {is} the man {that} does this, and {who} holds it tightly. He observes the Sabbath, not defiling it, and keeps his hand from doing any evil."

UST

² I will bless those who faithfully obey my laws about the Sabbath days. I will bless those who keep sacred my Sabbath days, and who do not do any work on those days, and who refrain from doing anything that is evil.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 56:3

ULT

³ Let no foreigner who has become a follower of Yahweh say, "Yahweh will certainly exclude me from his people." The eunuch should not say, "See, I {am} a dry tree."

UST

³ Foreigners who have believed in me should not say, 'Yahweh will surely not allow me to belong to his people.' And eunuchs should not say, 'Because I am deformed and unable to have children, I cannot belong to Yahweh; I am like a tree that has completely withered.'

What shouldn't the foreigner and eunuch who have become followers of Yahweh not say?

The foreigner should not say, "Yahweh will certainly exclude me from his people" and the eunuch should not say, "See, I am a dry tree."

Isaiah 56:4**ULT**

⁴ For this is what Yahweh says, "To the eunuchs who observe my Sabbaths and choose what pleases me, and hold fast my covenant,

UST

⁴ They should not say that, because I, Yahweh, say this to the eunuchs who obey my laws about the Sabbath, and who choose to do the things that please me, and who obey all the other laws of the covenant that I made with the Israelite people:

What will Yahweh do for eunuchs who observe Yahweh's sabbaths, choose what pleases him, and hold fast Yahweh's covenant? (vv4-5)

Yahweh will set up a monument for him, in Yahweh's house and within his walls, that is better than of sons and of daughters.

Isaiah 56:5**ULT**

⁵ to them I will set up in my house and within my walls a monument that is better than having sons and of daughters. I will give them an everlasting monument that will never be cut off.

UST

⁵ I will cause people to put inside the walls of my temple a monument to them; because of that monument, they will be honored more than they would have if they had children; they will be honored forever.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 56:6**ULT**

⁶ Also foreigners who join themselves to Yahweh— to serve him, and who love the name of Yahweh, to worship him, every one who observes the Sabbath and who keeps from defiling it, and who holds fast my covenant—

UST

⁶ I will also bless those who are not Israelites who join themselves to me, who serve me and worship and love me, who obey my laws about the Sabbath, and who faithfully obey all the other laws of the covenant that I made with the Israelite people.

What will Yahweh do for foreigners who join themselves to Yahweh to serve him, who worship him and love his name, who observe the sabbath and keeps from defiling it, and who hold fast Yahweh's covenant? (vv6-7)

Yahweh will bring them to his holy mountain and make them joyful in his house of prayer; their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on Yahweh's altar.

Isaiah 56:7**ULT**

⁷ I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices {will be} accepted on my altar. For my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations,

UST

⁷ I will bring them to my sacred hill in Jerusalem, and cause them to be very joyful in my temple where people pray to me, and I will accept the sacrifices that they burn on my altar and other sacrifices that they offer, because my temple will be a building where people of all nations pray to me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 56:8**ULT**

⁸ this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh, who gathers the outcasts of Israel— I will still gather {others} in addition to them."

UST

⁸ I, Yahweh, the Lord, the one who will bring back the people of Israel who have been forced to go to other countries, say this: I will bring from other countries many more people to join those Israelites whom I have brought back."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 56:9**ULT**

⁹ All you wild beasts of the field, come and devour, all you beasts in the forest!

UST

⁹ "You surrounding nations have armies that are like animals in the forest; come and attack Israel!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 56:10**ULT**

¹⁰ All their watchmen {are} blind, they do not understand. They {are} all silent dogs who cannot bark. They dream, and lying down they love to sleep.

UST

¹⁰ The Israelite leaders should be like watchdogs to protect the people, but it is as though they were blind. They understand nothing. They are all like dogs that cannot bark. Good watchdogs bark when strangers approach, but the Israelite leaders do not warn the people that their enemies are coming. Instead, they just want to lie down and sleep and dream.

Who is compared to a dumb dog?

Their watchmen are compared to dumb dogs.

Isaiah 56:11**ULT**

¹¹ The dogs have big appetites; they can never get enough; {they are} shepherds without discernment; they have all turned to their own way, each one covetous for unjust gain.

UST

¹¹ And they are like greedy dogs; they never get all that they want. They are supposed to lead the people, like good shepherds lead their flocks, but they are ignorant, and they each do whatever they want to do.

What have their watchmen and shepherds done?

They have all turned to their own way, each one covetous for unjust gain.

Isaiah 56:12

ULT

¹² "Come," {they say}, "let us drink wine and liquor. Tomorrow will be like today, a day great beyond measure."

UST

¹² They say to each other, 'Come, let us go and get some wine and other alcoholic drinks, and let us become drunk! And tomorrow we will enjoy drinking even more!'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57**Isaiah 57:1****ULT**

¹ The righteous perish, but no one considers it, and the people of covenant faithfulness are gathered away, but no one understands that the righteous is gathered away from the evil.

UST

¹ Righteous people die, and no one is concerned about it. Godly people die, and no one understands why. God takes them away in order that they will not endure more calamities,

What does no one consider or understand about the righteous when they perish? (vv1-2)

They don't consider or understand that the righteous are gathered away from evil and enter into peace.

Isaiah 57:2**ULT**

² He enters into peace; they rest in their beds, those who walk {in} their uprightness.

UST

² and now they have peace. They lived righteously, and now they rest peacefully in their graves.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:3**ULT**

³ But come here, you sons of the sorceress, children of the adulterer and the woman who has prostituted herself.

UST

³ Yahweh says, "But you who practice sorcery, come here! You who worship idols, listen to me!

Who is merrily mocking and opening the mouth and sticking out the tongue? (vv3-4)

The sons of the sorceress, the children of the adulterer and the woman who has prostituted herself do these things.

Isaiah 57:4**ULT**

⁴ Whom are you merrily mocking? Against whom are you opening the mouth {and} sticking out the tongue? {Are} you not children of rebellion, children of deceit?

UST

⁴ Do you realize whom you are ridiculing, and whom you are insulting? Do you realize to whom you are sticking out your tongues? You are insulting me, Yahweh! You are always rebelling against me and always lying, just like your ancestors.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:5**ULT**

⁵ You heat yourselves up sleeping together under the oaks, under every green tree, you who kill your children in the dry riverbeds, under the rocky overhangs.

UST

⁵ You are eager to sleep together under every tall green tree where you worship your gods. You kill your children as sacrifices to your idols in the dry riverbeds, and offer them as sacrifices to your idols in the rocky caves.

What else did these who were called children of rebellion and children of deceit do?

They had sex under the oaks, under every green tree. They killed their children in the dry riverbeds, under the rocky overhangs.

Isaiah 57:6**ULT**

⁶ Among the smooth {things} of the river valley {are} the things that have been assigned to you. They {are} the object of your devotion. You pour out your drink offering to them and raise up a grain offering. In these things should I take pleasure?

UST

⁶ You take big smooth stones from the riverbeds and worship them as your gods. You pour out wine to be an offering to them, and you bring grain to burn for an offering to them. Do you think that I enjoy all those things?

What are the objects of their devotion?

Some of the smooth things of the river valley are the objects of their devotion.

Isaiah 57:7**ULT**

⁷ You prepared your bed on a high mountain; you also went up there to offer sacrifices.

UST

⁷ You sleep with idols' prostitutes on every hill and mountain, and you go there to offer sacrifices to your gods.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:8**ULT**

⁸ Behind the door and the doorposts you set up your symbols; you deserted me, made yourselves naked, and went up; you made your bed wide. You made {a covenant} with them; you loved their beds; you saw {their} private parts.

UST

⁸ You have put charms behind your doors and doorposts, and you have deserted me. You have taken off your clothes and climbed into your bed, and invited more of your lovers to come to bed with you. You have paid them to sleep with you, and you have looked at their private parts.

What did these rebellious and deceitful ones do concerning Yahweh?

They deserted Yahweh.

Isaiah 57:9**ULT**

⁹ You went to Molech with oil; you multiplied perfumes. ^[1] You send your ambassadors far away; you went down to Sheol.

UST

⁹ You have given fragrant oil and lots of perfume to kings, and you sent representatives to distant countries to look for other gods to worship; you even tried to send messengers to the place of the dead to search for new gods.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:10**ULT**

¹⁰ You were tired from your long journey, {but} you never said, "It is hopeless." You found life in your hand; therefore you did not weaken.

UST

¹⁰ You became weary because of doing all those things, but you never said, 'It is useless for us to do that.' You found new strength for worshiping idols, so you continued to do so.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:11**ULT**

¹¹ "Whom are you worried about? Whom do you fear so much that has caused you to act so deceitfully, so much that you would not remember me or think about me? {Because} I was silent for so long, you are no longer afraid of me.

UST

¹¹ Was it because you were afraid of those idols more than you were afraid of me that you lied about what you were doing, and you do not even think about me? Was it because I did not punish you for a long time that you are not afraid of me?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:12**ULT**

¹² I will proclaim all your righteous acts and tell all that you have done, but they will not help you.

UST

¹² You think that the things that you have done are right, but I will tell you the truth: It will not help you to do any of those things.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:13**ULT**

¹³ When you cry out, let your collection {of idols} rescue you. Instead the wind will carry {them} all away, a breath will carry them all away. Yet he who takes refuge in me will inherit the land and will take possession of my holy mountain.

UST

¹³ When you cry out for help to your collection of idols, they will not rescue you. The wind will blow them away; a single breath will carry them all away. But those who trust in me will live in the land of Israel, and they will worship me on Zion, my sacred hill."

What will Yahweh tell these wicked and rebellious ones when they cry out?

Yahweh will tell them to let their collection of idols deliver them.

What will happen to these wicked and rebellious ones?

The wind will carry them all away, a breath will carry them all away.

What will happen to the ones who take refuge in Yahweh?

They will inherit the land and take possession of Yahweh's holy mountain.

Isaiah 57:14**ULT**

¹⁴ He will say, 'Build, build! Clear a way! Remove all the stumbling blocks from the path of my people!'"

UST

¹⁴ Yahweh will say, "Prepare yourselves to receive me, like people build and prepare a road for a king to come on. Get rid of the things that are causing you to sin.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For this is what the high and elevated One says, who lives eternally, whose name {is} holy, "I live in the exalted and holy {place}, with him also {that} is of a crushed and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble ones, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

UST

¹⁵ Because this is what I say—I, Yahweh, who am holy and honored more than anyone else, and who live forever: I live in the highest heaven, where everything is holy, but I also am with those who are humble and who are sorry for the sinful things that they have done. I will greatly encourage those who have repented.

Who will dwell with Yahweh in the exalted and holy place?

The ones who are of a crushed and humble spirit will dwell with Yahweh there.

Isaiah 57:16**ULT**

¹⁶ For I will not accuse forever, nor will I be angry forever, for then man's spirit would faint before me, the lives {that} I have made.

UST

¹⁶ I will not accuse people forever; I will not always be angry with them, because if I did that, people would become weak; all the people whom I created and caused to live would die.

What would happen if Yahweh accused man forever?

The man's spirit would faint before Yahweh.

Isaiah 57:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Because of the sin of his violent gain, I was angry, and I punished him; I hid my face and was angry, but he went backward in the way of his heart.

UST

¹⁷ I was angry with my people because they sinned by taking with force what belonged to others. Because I was angry, I punished them and turned away from them, but they continued sinning.

Why was Yahweh angry with man?

Yahweh was angry with man because of his violent gain.

Isaiah 57:18**ULT**

¹⁸ I have seen his ways, but I will heal him. I will lead him and comfort and console those who mourn for him,

UST

¹⁸ I have seen the evil things that they continually do, but I will restore them and lead them. I will encourage them. As for those who are mourning,

Even though Yahweh has seen man's ways, what is Yahweh going to do for man? (vv18-19)

Yahweh said he would heal him.

Isaiah 57:19**ULT**

¹⁹ and I create the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace, to {those who are} far off and to {those who are near}—says Yahweh—I will heal them.

UST

¹⁹ I will enable them to sing songs to praise me. I will restore all my people, those who live near Jerusalem and those who live far away, and I will cause things to go well for them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:20**ULT**

²⁰ But the wicked {are} like the tossing sea, which cannot rest, and its waters churn up mire and mud.

UST

²⁰ Wicked people do not have peace in their inner beings; they are like a sea whose waves are always churning up mud,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 57:21

ULT

²¹ {There is} no peace for the wicked one—says God.”
57:9 ^[1], some versions have .

UST

²¹ and I, Yahweh, say that things will never go well for those who are evil.”

Who has no peace?

The wicked one has no peace.

Isaiah 58

Isaiah 58:1

ULT

¹ “Cry loudly; do not hold back. Lift up your voice like a trumpet. Confront my people with their rebellion, and the house of Jacob with their sins.

UST

¹ Yahweh said to me, “Shout loudly! Shout like a loud trumpet! Shout to warn my Israelite people about their sins!

What did Yahweh command the house of Jacob to be confronted with?

He commanded the house of Jacob to be confronted with their rebellion and sins.

Isaiah 58:2

ULT

² Yet they seek me daily and delight in the knowledge of my ways, like a nation that practiced righteousness and did not abandon the law of their God. They ask me for righteous judgments; they take pleasure in the thought of God coming near.

UST

² They worship me every day; they come to my temple because they say that they are eager to know what I want them to do. They act as though they were a nation that does things that are righteous, that would never abandon the commands of me, their God. They request me to decide matters justly, and they are eager that I should come to them.

How did the house of Jacob seek Yahweh?

They sought him like a nation that practiced righteousness and did not abandon the law of their God.

Isaiah 58:3**ULT**

³ 'Why have we fasted,' {they say,} 'but you do not see it? {Why} have we humbled ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, on the day of your fast you find your own pleasure and oppress all your laborers.

UST

³ They say, 'We have fasted to please you, but you did not notice our doing that. We humbled ourselves, but you did not pay any attention!' I will tell you why I did not pay attention. It is because when you fast, you do it only to please yourselves, and you act cruelly toward all your workers.

What was the complaint the house of Jacob made to Yahweh concerning them humbling themselves and fasting?

Their complaint to Yahweh was that when they fasted and humbled themselves Yahweh didn't see it or notice.

What did Yahweh say the house of Jacob did on the day of their fast?

Yahweh said that on the day of their fast they find their own pleasure and oppress all their laborers.

Isaiah 58:4**ULT**

⁴ Look, you fast to quarrel and fight, and to hit with your fist of wickedness; {you do} not fast today to make your voice heard above.

UST

⁴ You fast, but you also quarrel and fight with each other with your fists. Doing things like that while you fast will certainly not cause me to hear your prayers where I am, high in heaven.

What did Yahweh say was not the reason the house of Jacob was fasting?

Yahweh said the house of Jacob was not fasting to make their voice heard above.

Isaiah 58:5**ULT**

⁵ {Is this} really the kind of fast that I would want: A day for anybody to humble himself, for him to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under himself? Do you really call this a fast, a day that pleases Yahweh?

UST

⁵ You bow your heads like the tops of reeds bend when the wind blows, and you wear rough clothes and cover your heads with ashes like people do when they are grieving. That is what you do when you are fasting, but do you really think that will please me?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 58:6**ULT**

⁶ {Is} not this the fast that I choose: To release wicked bonds, to undo the ropes of the yoke, to set the crushed ones free, and to break every yoke?

UST

⁶ No, that is not the kind of fasting that I desire. Instead you should seek to free those who have been unjustly put in prison, and encourage those who are treated cruelly; and free those who have been oppressed in any way.

What is the fast that Yahweh chooses? (vv6-7)

The fast that Yahweh chooses is to release wicked bonds, to undo the ropes of the yoke, to set the crushed ones free, to break every yoke, to break their bread with the hungry, to bring the poor and homeless into their houses, to clothe the naked and to not hide themselves from their own relatives.

Isaiah 58:7**ULT**

⁷ {Is it} not to break your bread with the hungry and to bring the poor and homeless into your house?" When you see someone naked, you should clothe him; and you should not hide yourself from your own relatives.

UST

⁷ Share your food with those who are hungry and to allow those who have no houses to stay in your houses. Give clothes to those who do not have clothes, and do not hide yourself from your relatives who need help from you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 58:8**ULT**

⁸ Then your light would be broken open like the sunrise, and your healing would quickly sprout up; your righteousness would go before you, and the glory of Yahweh would be your rearguard.

UST

⁸ If you do those things, what you do for others will be like a light that shines when it dawns. The troubles that have been caused by your sins will end quickly. Others will know about your righteous behavior, and the glorious presence of Yahweh will protect you from behind like I protected the Israelite people when they left Egypt.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 58:9**ULT**

⁹ Then you would call, and Yahweh would answer; you would cry out for help, and he would say, "Here I {am.}" If you take away from among yourselves the yoke, the accusing finger, and the speech of wickedness,

UST

⁹ Then you will call out to me, and I will quickly answer and say, 'I am here to help you.' Stop oppressing people; stop falsely accusing people; and stop saying evil things about people.

What would Yahweh do if the house of Jacob took away from among themselves the yoke, the accusing finger, and the speech of wickedness, if they provided for the hungry and satisfied the need of the distressed? (vv9-10)

If they would do these things then their light would rise in the darkness, and their darkness would be like the noonday..

Isaiah 58:10**ULT**

¹⁰ {if} you yourselves provide for the hungry and satisfy the need of the distressed; then your light will rise in the darkness, and your darkness will {be} like the noonday.

UST

¹⁰ Give food to those who are hungry, and give to people who are afflicted the things that they need. Your doing that will be like a light that shines in the darkness; instead of doing evil to people, the good things you do for people will be like the sunshine at noontime.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 58:11**ULT**

¹¹ Then Yahweh will lead you continually and satisfy you in regions where there is no water, and he will strengthen your bones. You will be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

UST

¹¹ Yahweh will guide you continually, and he will give you good things to satisfy you. He will enable you to remain strong and healthy. You will be like a garden that is well watered, like a spring that never dries up.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 58:12**ULT**

¹² Some of you will rebuild the ancient ruins; you will raise up the ruins of many generations; you will be called “The repairer of the wall,” “The restorer of streets to live on.”

UST

¹² Your people will rebuild the cities that were destroyed long ago; they will build houses on top of the old foundations. People will say that you are the ones who are repairing the holes in the city walls, and who are repairing the streets where people live.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 58:13**ULT**

¹³ Suppose that you turn back your feet from traveling on the Sabbath day, and {from} doing your own pleasure on my holy {day}. Suppose that you call the Sabbath a delight, and that you call the matters of Yahweh holy and honored. Suppose that you honor the Sabbath by leaving your own business, and by not finding your own pleasure and by not speaking {your own} words.

UST

¹³ Do not travel on the Sabbath days, and on Sabbath days do not do only the things that you delight to do. Enjoy the Sabbath days, and consider them to be delightful. The Sabbath days are my holy days. Honor me, Yahweh, in everything that you do on the Sabbath days. Do not talk about and do things to please yourselves. If you do all the things that I have just now told you to do; listen, and I will tell you what I will do for you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 58:14**ULT**

¹⁴ “Then you will find delight in Yahweh; and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; I will feed you from the inheritance of Jacob your father—for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken.”

UST

¹⁴ I will enable you to be joyful. I will greatly honor you; it will be as though you were riding with me above the highest mountains! I will give to you the blessings that I gave to your ancestor Jacob. Those things will surely happen because I, Yahweh, have said it.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59

Isaiah 59:1

ULT

¹ Look, Yahweh's hand is not so short that it cannot save; nor his ear so dull, that it cannot hear.

UST

¹ Listen to this! Yahweh's power is not too little to rescue you. He has not become deaf; he can still hear you when you call to him for help.

Can Yahweh save us? Does he hear us?

Yahweh's hand is not so short that it cannot save; nor his ear so dull, that is cannot hear.

Isaiah 59:2

ULT

² Your sinful acts, however, have separated you from your God, and your sins have made him hide {his} face from you and from hearing you.

UST

² But you have separated yourselves from your God by the sins that you have committed. Because of your sins, he has turned away from you, with the result that he does not pay attention to what you request him to do.

Why didn't Yahweh hear or save the house of Jacob?

Their sinful acts separated them from their God and their sins made Yahweh hide his face from them and from hearing them.

Isaiah 59:3**ULT**

³ For your hands are stained with blood and your fingers with sin. Your lips speak lies and your tongue speaks maliciously.

UST

³ You do violent things to others, with the result that your hands are stained with their blood. You constantly tell lies, and you say evil things about others.

What are some of the sins the house of Jacob committed that separated them from Yahweh? (vv3-4)

Some of the sins that separated them from Yahweh were: They stained their hands with blood. They lied and spoke maliciously. They were malicious and untruthful. They conceived trouble.

Isaiah 59:4**ULT**

⁴ No one calls in righteousness, and none pleads his case in truth. They trust in empty {words}, and tell lies; they conceive trouble and give birth to sin.

UST

⁴ When you accuse someone in court, what you say is not fair and it is not true. You accuse people falsely; you depend on the lies you tell. You are constantly planning to cause trouble for others, and then you do those evil things that you planned.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:5**ULT**

⁵ They hatch eggs of a poisonous snake and weave a spider's web. Whoever eats of their eggs dies, and if an egg is crushed, it hatches into a poisonous snake.

UST

⁵ What you plan to do to harm people is like the eggs a poisonous snake lays, like a web that a spider catches its victims in. Cobras will hatch from those eggs, and insects will fall into the spider's web.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:6**ULT**

⁶ Their webs cannot be used for garments, nor can they cover themselves with their works. Their works {are} works of sin, and deeds of violence are in their hands.

UST

⁶ You cannot hide the evil deeds that you have done. You are constantly acting violently.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:7**ULT**

⁷ Their feet run to evil, and they run to pour out innocent blood. Their thoughts {are} thoughts of sin; violence destruction {are} their roads.

UST

⁷ You are very quick to go and do evil deeds, and you hurry to murder people who are innocent. You are continually thinking about sinning. Wherever you go, you destroy things and cause people to suffer.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:8**ULT**

⁸ The way of peace they do not know, and {there is} no justice in their paths. They have made crooked paths; whoever travels these paths does not know peace.

UST

⁸ You do not know how to act peacefully or to treat others fairly. You always are dishonest, and those who imitate your behavior never have any peace within themselves.

What happens to those who travel crooked paths?

Those who travel crooked paths do not know peace.

Isaiah 59:9**ULT**

⁹ Therefore justice is far from us, nor does righteousness reach us. We wait for light, but see darkness; we look for brightness, but we walk in darkness.

UST

⁹ Because of that, God does not rescue us from our enemies, it seems that he is not acting fairly toward us. We expect God to give us light, but all he gives us is darkness.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:10**ULT**

¹⁰ We grope for the wall like the blind, like those who cannot see. We stumble at noonday as in the twilight; among the strong we are like dead men.

UST

¹⁰ We are like blind people who have to feel along the wall to be able to walk anywhere. We stumble and trip at noontime like we would when it is dark. We are like dead people who are among healthy people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:11**ULT**

¹¹ We growl like bears and moan like doves; we wait for justice, but {there is} none; for rescue, but it is far from us.

UST

¹¹ We growl like hungry bears; we continually moan like doves. We ask God to do what is just, but nothing happens. We want God to rescue us, but it seems that he is far away.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:12**ULT**

¹² For our many transgressions are before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions {are} with us, and we know our sins.

UST

¹² But these things are happening because it is as though our sins are piled high in the presence of God, and it is they that testify against us. We cannot deny it; we know that we have done many wrong things.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:13**ULT**

¹³ We have rebelled, denying Yahweh and turning away from following our God. We have spoken extortion and turning aside, conceived complaining from the heart and words of lying.

UST

¹³ We know that we have rebelled against Yahweh; we have turned away from him. We oppress people by what we testify against them; we do not allow them to get what they have a right to get. We think about the lies that we can tell, and then we tell them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Justice is driven back, and righteousness stands far off; for truth stumbles in the public square, and right cannot come.

UST

¹⁴ In our courts, the judges do not decide cases fairly; no one is acting righteously. In plazas where people gather together, no one tells the truth; it seems that people are not allowed to say what is true.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Trustworthiness has gone away, and he {who} turns away from evil makes himself a victim. Yahweh saw {it} and was displeased that {there was} no justice.

UST

¹⁵ No one tells the truth, and people try to ruin the reputations of those who quit doing evil. Yahweh looked around, and he saw that no one was doing what is just; he was very displeased.

What happened to him who turned away from evil?

He made himself a victim.

What displeased Yahweh?

It displeased Yahweh when he saw there was no justice.

Isaiah 59:16**ULT**

¹⁶ He saw that {there was} no man, and wondered that {there was} no one to intervene. Therefore his own arm brought salvation for him, and his righteousness sustained him.

UST

¹⁶ He was disgusted when he saw that no one tried to help those who were being treated cruelly. So he used his own power to rescue them; it is because he is always righteous that he did that.

What did Yahweh do when he saw there was no one to intervene?

When Yahweh saw there was no one to intervene, his own arm brought salvation for him.

Isaiah 59:17**ULT**

¹⁷ He put on righteousness as a breastplate and a helmet of salvation upon his head. He clothed himself with garments of vengeance and wore zeal as a mantle.

UST

¹⁷ It is as though he were a soldier who put on his armor and a helmet; his continually doing what is right is like his armor, and his ability to rescue people is like his helmet. His being extremely angry and his being ready to get revenge on those who do evil are like his robes.

Then what did Yahweh do? (vv17-18)

He put on righteousness as a breastplate and a helmet of salvation upon his head. He clothed himself with garments of vengeance and wore zeal as a mantle. He repayed them for what they had done, angry judgment to his adversaries, vengeance to his enemies, to the islands punishment as their reward.

Isaiah 59:18**ULT**

¹⁸ He repaid them for what {they} had done, angry judgment to his adversaries, vengeance to his enemies, to the islands punishment as their reward.

UST

¹⁸ He will repay his enemies for the evil things that they have done. He will severely punish even those who live far from Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 59:19**ULT**

¹⁹ So they will fear the name of Yahweh from the west, and his glory from the sun's rising; for he will come as a rushing stream, driven by the breath of Yahweh.

UST

¹⁹ When that happens, people everywhere, from the east to the west, will respect and honor Yahweh, because he will come like a rushing river that is pushed along by the strong wind that Yahweh sent.

What will be the result of Yahweh repaying them for what they had done?

They will fear the name of Yahweh from the west, and his glory from the sun's rising.

Isaiah 59:20**ULT**

²⁰ "A redeemer will come to Zion and to those who turn from their rebellious deeds in Jacob—this is Yahweh's declaration.

UST

²⁰ And Yahweh says that he will come to Jerusalem to free his people; he will come to rescue those in Judah who have stopped doing sinful things.

Who will a redeemer come to?

A redeemer will come to Zion and to those who turn from their rebellious deeds in Jacob.

Isaiah 59:21**ULT**

²¹ As for me, this is my covenant with them—says Yahweh—my spirit who is upon you, and my words which I have put in your mouth, will not leave your mouth, or go out of the mouth of your children, or go out of the mouth of your children’s children—says Yahweh—from this time and forever.”

UST

²¹ This is what Yahweh says to his people: “This is the covenant that I will make with you: My Spirit will not leave you, and you will always have my message. You will be able to declare it, and your children and grandchildren will be able to declare it forever.”

What is Yahweh’s covenant with them?

This is the covenant: Yahweh’s spirit who is upon you, and my words which I have put in your mouth, will not leave your mouth, or go out of the mouth of your children, or go out of the mouth of your children’s children from this time and forever.

Isaiah 60**Isaiah 60:1****ULT**

¹ Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of Yahweh has risen on you.

UST

¹ You people of Jerusalem, stand up! Yahweh has done glorious things for you, and he has acted powerfully for you; so show others that he is very great!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:2**ULT**

² Though darkness will cover the earth, and thick darkness the nations; yet Yahweh will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen on you.

UST

² But spiritual darkness has covered all the other people groups on the earth, complete darkness, but Yahweh will show you how great he is, and other people will also see it.

Though darkness will cover the earth, what will Yahweh do for Israel?

Yahweh will arise upon them and his glory will be seen on them.

Isaiah 60:3**ULT**

³ Nations will come to your light, and kings to your bright light that is rising.

UST

³ People of all people groups will see that he is very great by seeing what he has done for you, and kings will come to see the wonderful things that have happened to you.

Who will come to Israel's light?

Nations and kings will come to their light.

Isaiah 60:4**ULT**

⁴ Look all around and see. They all gather themselves together and come to you. Your sons will come from far, and your daughters will be carried in their arms.

UST

⁴ Yahweh says, "Look around, and you will see the people who will be returning from exile! Your sons will come from distant countries; others will carry your little daughters home.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:5**ULT**

⁵ Then you will look and be radiant, and your heart shall rejoice and overflow, because the abundance of the sea will be poured out to you, the wealth of the nations will come to you.

UST

⁵ When you look at this happening, you will be very joyful in your inner beings, because people will bring valuable goods to you from all around the world. They will bring valuable things from many nations in ships.

Why will Israel look and be radiant and their heart rejoice and overflow?

This will be because the abundance of the sea will be poured out to them, the wealth of the nations will come to them.

Isaiah 60:6**ULT**

⁶ Camel caravans will cover you, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all of them will come from Sheba; they will bring gold and frankincense, and will sing the praises of Yahweh.

UST

⁶ People will also bring valuable goods to you on herds of camels: camels from the Midian and Ephah areas of northern Arabia. And from Sheba in southern Arabia they will come, bringing gold and frankincense; they will all come to praise me, Yahweh.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:7**ULT**

⁷ All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you, the rams of Nebaioth will serve your needs; they will be acceptable offerings on my altar; and I will glorify my glorious house.

UST

⁷ They will bring flocks of sheep and goats from Kedar in northern Arabia and give them to you. They will bring rams from Nebaioth for you to sacrifice on my altars, and I will accept them happily. At that time I will cause my temple to be very beautifully decorated.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:8**ULT**

⁸ Who {are} these {who} fly along like a cloud, and like the doves to their shelters?

UST

⁸ And what are those things that are moving swiftly like clouds? They resemble pigeons returning to their nests.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:9**ULT**

⁹ The coastlands look for me, and the ships of Tarshish {lead}, to bring your sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, for the name of Yahweh your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has honored you.

UST

⁹ But they are really ships from Tarshish that are bringing your people back here. When your people come, they will bring with them all the valuable possessions that they have acquired, and they will do that to honor me, Yahweh, your God, the Holy One of Israel, because I will have greatly honored you.

Who leads in bringing Israel's sons from afar?

The ships of Tarshish lead.

Isaiah 60:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Sons of foreigners will rebuild your walls, and their kings will serve you; though in my wrath I punished you, yet in my favor I will have compassion on you.

UST

¹⁰ Foreigners will come and rebuild the walls of your cities, and their kings will serve you. Although I punished you because I was angry with you, these things will happen now because I will act mercifully toward you because I am kind.

Who will rebuild the city of Yahweh and who will serve them?

Sons of foreigners will rebuild their walls and kings will serve them.

Isaiah 60:11**ULT**

¹¹ Your gates also will remain open continually; they will not be shut day or night, so that the wealth of the nations may be brought, with their kings being led.

UST

¹¹ The gates of your cities will be open during the day and also during the night, in order that people will be able to bring into your cities valuable things from many countries, with their kings being led to you in the processions.

Why will the gates of the city remain open continually?

They will remain open so that the wealth of the nations may be brought in.

Isaiah 60:12**ULT**

¹² Indeed, nations and kingdoms that will not serve you will perish; {those} nations will be completely destroyed.

UST

¹² And the kingdoms and nations whose people refuse to allow you to rule them will be completely destroyed.

What will happen to those nations and kingdoms who will not serve them?

Those nations and kingdoms will perish; they will be completely destroyed.

Isaiah 60:13**ULT**

¹³ The glory of Lebanon will come to you, the cypress tree, the fir, and the cypress box tree together, to beautify my sanctuary; and I will glorify the place of my feet.

UST

¹³ The glorious things in Lebanon will be brought to you— lumber from cypress trees and fir trees and pine trees— to be used to make my temple beautiful. When that is done, my temple will truly be glorious!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:14**ULT**

¹⁴ They will come to you to bow down, the sons of those who humbled you; they will bow at your feet; they will call you The City of Yahweh, Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

UST

¹⁴ The descendants of those who oppressed you will come and bow down to you; those who despised you will prostrate themselves in front of your feet. They will say that your city on Mount Zion is the City of Yahweh, where the Holy One of Israel lives.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Instead of you remaining abandoned and hated, with no one passing through {you}, I will make you a thing of pride forever, a joy from generation to generation.

UST

¹⁵ Previously everyone hated you and ignored you, but now your city will be majestic forever; and I will cause you to be joyful forever.

What will Yahweh make the City of Yahweh to be?

He will make her to be a thing of pride forever, a joy from generation to generation.

Isaiah 60:16**ULT**

¹⁶ You will also drink the milk of the nations, and will nurse at the breast of kings; you will know that I, Yahweh, {am} your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

UST

¹⁶ People of all nations and their kings will gladly bring their wealth to you. When that happens, you will realize that I truly am Yahweh, the one who saves you and rescues you from your enemies, and that I am the mighty one to whom you Israelite people belong.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Instead of bronze I will bring gold, instead of iron I will bring silver; instead of wood, bronze, and instead of stones, iron. I will appoint peace as your governors, and justice your rulers.

UST

¹⁷ Instead of metals that are not valuable, like bronze and iron, I will bring to you silver and gold. Instead of wood and stones, I will bring you bronze and iron for your buildings. There will be peace in your country, and your rulers will do what is fair.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Violence will no longer be heard in your land, or devastation nor shattering within your borders; but you will call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise.

UST

¹⁸ People in your country will no longer act violently, and people will no longer destroy your land and drive you out of it. The people in the city will be safe, and everyone there will praise me.

What will no longer be heard in the land of Zion?

Violence will no longer be heard in their land, or devastation nor shattering within their borders.

Isaiah 60:19**ULT**

¹⁹ The sun will no longer be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you; but Yahweh will be your everlasting light, and your God your glory.

UST

¹⁹ And you will no longer need the sun and moon to give you light, because I, Yahweh, will give you more light than the sun and moon; I will be a glorious light for you forever.

What will give light to the land? (vv19-20)

Yahweh will be their everlasting light.

Isaiah 60:20**ULT**

²⁰ Your sun will no longer set, nor will your moon withdraw and disappear; for Yahweh will be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning will be ended.

UST

²⁰ It will seem as though the sun and moon will always be shining, because I, Yahweh, will be an everlasting light for you. You will never again be sad because of things that happen to you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 60:21**ULT**

²¹ All your people {will be} righteous; they will take possession of the land for all time, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

UST

²¹ Your people will all be righteous, and they will occupy the land forever, because I myself have put you there like people plant trees in order that you will show others that I am very great.

For how long will Yahweh's people possess the land?

They will take possession of the land for all time.

Isaiah 60:22

ULT

²² The little one shall become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation; I, Yahweh, will swiftly accomplish these things when the time comes.

UST

²² At that time, the groups that are very small now will become very large clans, and small clans will become great nations. All those things will happen because, I, Yahweh, will cause them to happen at the right time.”

How long will it take for Yahweh to accomplish these things?

Yahweh will swiftly accomplish these things when the time comes.

Isaiah 61

Isaiah 61:1

ULT

¹ The Spirit of the Lord Yahweh {is} on me, because Yahweh has anointed me to proclaim good news to the afflicted. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison for {those who are} bound.

UST

¹ The Spirit of Yahweh our Lord is on me; he has appointed me to bring good news to those who are oppressed, to comfort those who are discouraged, and to free all those who are as though they are chained by the wrong things that they continually do.

Why is the spirit of the Lord Yahweh upon him?

The spirit is upon him because Yahweh has anointed him.

What has Yahweh anointed him to do?

Yahweh has anointed him to proclaim good news to the humble.

What are the first three things Yahweh sent him to do?

Yahweh has sent him to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, to open the prison to those who are bound.

Isaiah 61:2

ULT

² He has sent me to proclaim the year of Yahweh's favor, the day of vengeance of our God, and to comfort all who mourn.

UST

² He has sent me to tell those who mourn that now is the time when Yahweh will act kindly toward his people; now is the time when our God will get revenge on their enemies.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 61:3**ULT**

³ He has sent me—to give to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a turban instead of ashes, oil of joy instead of mourning, a mantle of praise in place of a spirit of dullness, to call them oaks of righteousness, the planting of Yahweh, that he may be glorified.

UST

³ To all those in Jerusalem who mourn, he will give beautiful things to wear on their heads instead of ashes that they put on their heads to show that they were sad; he will cause them to rejoice instead of being sad; he will enable them to be happy instead of being discouraged. They will be called 'people who continually do what is right, people who are like tall oak trees that Yahweh has planted' to show others that he is very great.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 61:4**ULT**

⁴ They will rebuild the ancient ruins; they will restore the former desolations. They will restore the ruined cities, the desolations from many former generations.

UST

⁴ Those who return from Babylon will rebuild the cities that the soldiers from Babylon tore down. Even though those cities have been destroyed and abandoned for many years, they will be restored.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 61:5**ULT**

⁵ Foreigners will stand and feed your flocks, and sons of foreigners {will work} your fields and vineyards.

UST

⁵ Foreigners will be the ones who will take care of your flocks of sheep and goats, and plow your fields and take care of your grapevines.

What will foreigners do in Zion?

They will stand and feed the flocks of those in Zion and the sons of foreigners will work their fields and vineyards.

Isaiah 61:6**ULT**

⁶ You will be called the priests of Yahweh; they will call you servants of our God. You will eat the wealth of the nations, and you will boast in their riches.

UST

⁶ But you are the ones who will be like the priests to serve Yahweh, to work for God. You will enjoy valuable goods that are brought from other nations, and you will be happy that those things have become yours.

What will those in Zion be called?

They will be called priests of Yahweh; servants of God.

Isaiah 61:7**ULT**

⁷ {Instead of} your shame {you will have} double; and instead of dishonor they will rejoice over their share. So they will have a double share of their land; everlasting joy will be theirs.

UST

⁷ Previously you were shamed and disgraced, but now you will have great blessings; previously your enemies humbled you, but now you will have many good things; you will be happy because you will be in your land again, and you will rejoice forever.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 61:8**ULT**

⁸ For I, Yahweh, love justice, and I hate robbery and violent injustice. I will faithfully repay them, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

UST

⁸ "I, Yahweh, am very pleased with those who decide matters fairly; I hate those who illegally take things from other people. I will surely repay my people for all that they have suffered in the past. And I will make an everlasting agreement with them.

What does Yahweh love and what does he hate?

Yahweh loves justice and hates robbery and violent injustice.

Isaiah 61:9**ULT**

⁹ Their descendants will be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge them, that they {are} the people {whom} Yahweh has blessed.

UST

⁹ Their descendants will be honored by people of other nations; their children will be honored by all the other nations. Everyone who sees them will know that they are a nation that I, Yahweh, have blessed."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 61:10**ULT**

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in Yahweh; in my God I will be very glad. For he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has clothed me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns {himself} with a turban, and as a bride adorns {herself} with her jewels.

UST

¹⁰ I greatly rejoice because of what Yahweh has done! I am happy in all my inner being, because he has saved me and declared that I am righteous; those blessings are like a robe that he has put on me. I am as happy as a bridegroom in his wedding clothes, or a bride wearing jewels.

What has Yahweh done for him?

Yahweh has clothed him with garments of salvation and with the robe of righteousness.

Isaiah 61:11**ULT**

¹¹ For as the earth produces its sprouting plants, and as the garden makes its planting grow, so the Lord Yahweh will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up in front of all the nations.

UST

¹¹ Just as seeds sown in a garden sprout from the soil and grow, Yahweh our God will cause people of all nations to act righteously, with the result that they will praise him for doing that.

What will the Lord Yahweh cause to sprout up in front of all the nations

He will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up in front of all the nations.

Isaiah 62

Isaiah 62:1

ULT

¹ For Zion's sake I will not be silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness proceeds brightly, and her salvation as a burning torch.

UST

¹ Because I am very concerned about the people of Jerusalem, I will do something to help them. I will not stop praying for them until they are rescued from their oppressors, until that becomes as apparent to everyone as the dawn every morning, until people can see it as clearly as they see a torch shining brightly at night.

Who will see Zion's righteousness and glory?

The nations will see Zion's righteousness and all kings will see her glory.

Isaiah 62:2

ULT

² The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory. You will be called by a new name that Yahweh will choose.

UST

² Some day the people of many nations will know that Yahweh has rescued you, his people. Their kings will see that your city is very great. And Yahweh will give your city a new name.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 62:3

ULT

³ You will also be a crown of beauty in the hand of Yahweh, and a turban of kingship in the hand of your God.

UST

³ It will be as though Yahweh had held you up in his hands in order that everyone can see you. Under his authority you will be like a crown worn by a king.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 62:4**ULT**

⁴ It will no more be said of you, "Abandoned"; nor of your land any longer will it be said, "Desolate." Indeed, you will be called "My delight is in her," and your land "Married," for Yahweh delights in you, and your land will be married.

UST

⁴ Your city will never again be called 'the deserted city,' and your country will never again be called 'the desolate land'; it will be called 'the land that Yahweh delights in,' and it will also be called 'married to Yahweh.' It will be called that because Yahweh will be delighted with you, and it will be as though you were his bride.

What will no longer be said of Zion and her land?

Zion will no longer be called "Abandoned" and her land will no longer be called "Desolate".

Why will Zion be called "My delight is in her" and Zion's land "Married"?

She will be called those things because Yahweh delights in her and her land will be married.

Isaiah 62:5**ULT**

⁵ Truly, {as} a young man marries a young woman, {so} your sons will marry you, and {as} a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, your God will rejoice over you.

UST

⁵ You people will live in all the country of Judah like a young man lives with his bride. And our God will be happy that you belong to him, like a bridegroom is happy that his bride belongs to him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 62:6**ULT**

⁶ I have put watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem; they are not silent day or night. You who keep reminding Yahweh, do not pause.

UST

⁶ You people of Jerusalem, I have placed watchmen on your walls; they will earnestly pray to Yahweh day and night. You watchmen, you must not stop praying and reminding Yahweh about what he has promised to do.

Why have watchmen been put on the walls of Jerusalem? (vv6-7)

They are put there to keep reminding Yahweh, allowing him no rest until he reestablishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise on earth.

Isaiah 62:7**ULT**

⁷ Do not allow him to rest until he reestablishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise on earth.

UST

⁷ And tell Yahweh that he should not rest until he causes Jerusalem to be a city that is famous and admired throughout the world.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 62:8**ULT**

⁸ Yahweh has sworn by his right hand and by the arm of his strength, "Surely I will no longer give your grain {as} food for your enemies. Foreigners will not drink your new wine, for which you have worked.

UST

⁸ Yahweh has raised his right hand to solemnly promise to the people of Jerusalem: "I will use my power and will never again allow your enemies to defeat you; soldiers from other nations will never come again to take away your grain and the wine that you worked hard to produce.

What has Yahweh sworn by his right hand and by the arm of his strength?

He has sworn that he will no longer give Jerusalem's grain as food for their enemies, and foreigners won't drink her new wine.

Isaiah 62:9**ULT**

⁹ For those who harvest the grain will eat it and praise Yahweh, and those who pick the grapes will drink the wine in the courts of my holy sanctuary."

UST

⁹ You yourselves will grow the grain, and you will be the ones who will praise me, Yahweh, while you eat the bread made from the grain. Inside the courtyards of my temple, you yourselves will drink the wine made from the grapes that you harvested."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 62:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Come through, come through the gates! Prepare the way for the people! Build it, build the highway! Gather out the stones! Raise up a signal flag for the nations!

UST

¹⁰ Go out through the city gates! Prepare the highway on which people will return from other countries! Cause the road to become smooth; clear off all the stones; set up signal flags to help the people groups to see the road to Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 62:11**ULT**

¹¹ Look, Yahweh announces to the ends of the earth, "Say to the daughter of Zion: Look, your Savior is coming! See, his reward {is} with him, and his recompense is going before him."

UST

¹¹ This is the message that Yahweh has sent to the people of every nation. Tell the people of Israel, "The one who will rescue you is coming! Look! He will be bringing to you your reward; those whom he has rescued will be going ahead of him."

What does Yahweh announce to the ends of the earth?

This is Yahweh's announcement: "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Look, your savior is coming! See, his reward is with him, and his reward goes before him.'"

Isaiah 62:12**ULT**

¹² They will call you, "The holy people; the redeemed of Yahweh," and you will be called "Sought after; a city not abandoned."

UST

¹² They will be called: "Yahweh's own people, and ones whom he rescued." And Jerusalem will be known as: "The city that Yahweh loves," and "The city that is no longer abandoned."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63

Isaiah 63:1

ULT

¹ Who {is} this {who comes} from Edom, clothed in red from Bozrah? {Who is} he in royal clothing, marching confidently because of his great strength? It is I, speaking righteousness and powerfully able to save.

UST

¹ I ask, "Who is this who is coming from the city of Bozrah in Edom, whose clothes are stained red from blood? Who is this who is wearing beautiful robes?" He replies, "It is I, Yahweh, declaring that I have defeated your enemies, and I am able to rescue you!"

What is the one who comes from Edom wearing and how does he come?

He is wearing red royal clothing and he comes marching confidently.

Why is the one from Edom marching so confidently?

He is marching confidently because of his great strength.

What does this one from Edom say about himself?

He says he speaks righteousness and that he is powerfully able to save.

Isaiah 63:2

ULT

² Why {are} your clothes red, and why do they look like you have been treading grapes in a winepress?

UST

² I ask him, "What are those red spots on your clothes? It appears that you have been treading on grapes to make wine."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63:3

ULT

³ I have trodden grapes in the winepress alone, and no one from the nations joined me. I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my fury. Their blood is spattered on my clothes and stained all my clothes.

UST

³ He replies, "I have been treading on my enemies, not on grapes. I did it myself; no one helped me. I punished them because I was very angry with them, and my clothes became stained with their blood."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63:4**ULT**

⁴ For I looked forward to the day of vengeance, and the year for my redemption had arrived.

UST

⁴ I did that because it was time for me to get revenge; it was time to rescue my people from those who had oppressed them.

What was this one from Edom looking forward to?

He was looking forward to the day of vengeance, and the year for his redemption had arrived.

Isaiah 63:5**ULT**

⁵ I looked, and {there was} no one to help. I wondered that {there was} none to help, but my own arm brought victory for me, and my strong anger drove me on.

UST

⁵ I searched for someone who would enable me to help my people, but I was amazed that there was no one to help me. So I defeated their enemies with my own power; I was able to do that because I was very angry.

Was there anyone there to help this one from Edom?

No. He looked but there was no one to help.

Isaiah 63:6**ULT**

⁶ I trampled down the peoples in my anger and made them drunk in my wrath, and I poured out their blood on the earth.

UST

⁶ Because I was extremely angry, I punished the nations; I caused them to stagger like drunk men, and I caused their blood to pour out on the ground."

What did this one from Edom do to the peoples?

He trampled down the peoples in his anger and made them drunk in his wrath and he splashed their blood on the earth.

Isaiah 63:7**ULT**

⁷ I will tell of the acts of Yahweh's covenant faithfulness, the praiseworthy deeds of Yahweh. I will tell of all that Yahweh has done for us, {and} of his great goodness to the house of Israel. This compassion he has shown us because of his mercy, and with many deeds of covenant faithfulness.

UST

⁷ I will tell about all the things that Yahweh has done for his people because of his faithful love for them, and I will praise him for all that he has done. Yahweh has done good things for us people of Israel; he has acted mercifully toward us and he has steadfastly and faithfully loved us.

Why and how has Yahweh shown compassion to the house of Israel?

He has shown them compassion because of his mercy and with many deeds of covenant faithfulness.

Isaiah 63:8**ULT**

⁸ For he said, "For certain they {are} my people, children {who} are not disloyal." He became their Savior.

UST

⁸ Yahweh said, "These are my people; they will not deceive me"; so he rescued us.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63:9**ULT**

⁹ Through all their suffering, he suffered too, and the angel from his presence saved them. In his love and mercy he saved them, and he lifted them up and carried them through all the ancient times.

UST

⁹ When we had many troubles, he was sad also. He sent his angel from before his presence to rescue us. Because he loved us and was merciful to us, he saved us; it was as though he had picked our ancestors up and carried them all those years during which they were oppressed in Egypt.

What happened in the ancient times when Yahweh's people suffered?

When the house of Israel suffered, Yahweh suffered.

In the ancient times, who saved Israel?

The messenger of his presence saved them in the ancient times.

Isaiah 63:10**ULT**

¹⁰ But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit. So he became their enemy {and} fought against them.

UST

¹⁰ But we rebelled against him, and we caused his Holy Spirit to be sad. So he became like an enemy who fought against us.

Why did he become their enemy?

He became their enemy because they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 63:11**ULT**

¹¹ His people thought about the ancient times of Moses. {They said}, "Where {is} God, who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where {is} God, who put his Holy Spirit among them?"

UST

¹¹ Then we thought about what happened long ago, during the time when Moses led our ancestors out of Egypt. We cried out, "Where is the one who brought our ancestors through the Sea of Reeds while Moses led them? Where is the one who sent his Holy Spirit to be among our ancestors?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63:12**ULT**

¹² Where is God, who made his glorious power go with the right hand of Moses, and divided the water before them, to make an everlasting name for himself?

UST

¹² Where is the one who showed his glorious power and caused the water to separate when Moses lifted his arm above it, with the result that he will be honored forever?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63:13**ULT**

¹³ Where is God, who led them through the deep water? Like a horse running on flat land, they did not stumble.

UST

¹³ Where is the one who led our ancestors while they walked through the seabed? They were like horses that were racing along and never stumbled.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63:14**ULT**

¹⁴ As the cattle that go down into the valley, the Spirit of Yahweh gave them rest. So you led your people, to make yourself a name of praise.

UST

¹⁴ They were like cattle that walk down into a valley to rest, and the Spirit of Yahweh enabled them to go to a place where they could rest. Yahweh, you led your people, and you caused yourself to be praised."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Look down from heaven and take notice from your holy and glorious habitation. Where {are} your zeal and your mighty acts? Your pity and your compassionate actions are kept from us.

UST

¹⁵ "Yahweh, look down from heaven; look down on us from your holy and glorious home. You were previously very concerned about us, and you acted powerfully to help us. But it seems that you do not act mercifully and zealously for us anymore.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63:16**ULT**

¹⁶ For you {are} our father, though Abraham does not know us, and Israel does not recognize us, you, Yahweh, {are} our father. 'Our Redeemer' {has been} your name from ancient times.

UST

¹⁶ You are our father, even if Abraham does not know what is happening to us, and Jacob is not concerned about us, either, but Yahweh, you are our father; you rescued us long ago.

What has been Yahweh's name from ancient times?

His name from ancient times has been "Our Redeemer".

Isaiah 63:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Yahweh, why do you make us wander from your ways {and} harden our hearts, so we do not obey you? Return for your servants' sake, the tribes of your inheritance.

UST

¹⁷ Yahweh, why did you cause us to wander away from your road? Why did you cause us to be stubborn in our inner beings, with the result that we no longer honor you? Help us like you did previously, because we are the people who serve you and belong to you.

What was the complaint or question of the house of Israel to Yahweh?

Their question and complaint was, "Yahweh, why do you make us wander from your ways and harden our hearts, so we do not obey you?"

Isaiah 63:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Your people possessed your holy place for a short time, but then our enemies trampled it.

UST

¹⁸ We, your holy people, possessed your sacred temple for only a short time, and now our enemies have destroyed it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 63:19

ULT

¹⁹ We have become {like} those over whom you never ruled, like those who were never called by your name.”

UST

¹⁹ Now it seems as though we never were ruled by you, as though we never belonged to you.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 64**Isaiah 64:1****ULT**

¹ “Oh, if you had split open the heavens and come down! The mountains would have shaken at your presence,

UST

¹ “Yahweh, I wish that you had come down from the sky; you would have caused the mountains to shake with fear.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 64:2**ULT**

² as when fire kindles the brushwood, or the fire makes water boil. Oh, that your name would be known by your adversaries, that the nations would tremble at your presence!

UST

² It would have been like fire burning up dead wood, or like fire making water to boil. Come down in order that your enemies will know who you are, and so that the people of other nations will tremble in your presence.

What would happen if Yahweh’s name was known by his adversaries?

The nations would tremble at his presence.

Isaiah 64:3**ULT**

³ Previously, when you did marvelous things that we had not expected, you came down, and the mountains trembled at your presence.

UST

³ You did awesome things that we were not expecting you to do; the mountains shook when you came down onto Mount Sinai.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 64:4**ULT**

⁴ Since ancient times no one has heard or perceived, nor eye seen any God besides you, who does things for him who waits for him.

UST

⁴ Since long ago no one has ever seen or heard about a God like you; you help those who depend on you.

Since ancient times has anyone heard or perceived of any God besides Yahweh, who does things for those who wait for him?

No, no one has heard or perceived of any God who does things for those who wait for him.

Isaiah 64:5**ULT**

⁵ You come to help those who rejoice in doing what is right, those {who} call to mind your ways and obey them. You were angry when we sinned. In your ways we will always be rescued.

UST

⁵ You help those who joyfully do what is right, those who conduct their lives as you want them to. But we did not do that; we continued to sin, and so you became angry with us. We have been sinning for a long time. It is only if we continually do what you want us to do that you will save us.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 64:6**ULT**

⁶ For we have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds {are} like a menstrual rag. We have all withered like leaves; our iniquities, like the wind, carry us away.

UST

⁶ We have all become people who are not fit to worship you; all of the good things that we have done are only like bloodstained rags. Because of our sins, we are all like leaves that dry up and are blown away by the wind.

What are all of Israel's righteous deeds like?

They are like a menstrual rag.

Isaiah 64:7**ULT**

⁷ {There are} none who calls on your name, who makes an effort to take hold of you. For you have hidden your face from us and made us waste away in the hand of our iniquities.

UST

⁷ None of our people worships you, and no one really tries to persuade you to help him. You have turned away from us. It is as though you have abandoned us, so that we keep sinning and become more and more guilty.

Why were there none who called on Yahweh's name, who made an effort to take hold of him?

This was so because Yahweh hid his face from them and handed them over to their sins.

Isaiah 64:8**ULT**

⁸ Yet, Yahweh, you {are} our father; we {are} the clay. You {are} our potter; and we all {are} the work of your hand.

UST

⁸ But even so, Yahweh, you are our father. We are like clay that a potter uses, and you created us, like a potter creates pottery.

What does the writer compare Yahweh and the people of Israel to?

Yahweh is compared to a potter and the people of Israel are compared to clay.

Isaiah 64:9**ULT**

⁹ Be not too angry, Yahweh, nor always call to mind against us our sins. Please look at us all, your people.

UST

⁹ Yahweh, do not continue to be angry with us; do not keep thinking about our sins forever. Do not forget that we are all your people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 64:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Your holy cities have become a wilderness; Zion has become a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.

UST

¹⁰ All of your towns in Judah have become like the wilderness; even Jerusalem has been destroyed.

What have Yahweh's holy cities become?

Yahweh's holy cities have become a wilderness and Jerusalem a desolation.

Isaiah 64:11**ULT**

¹¹ Our holy and beautiful temple, where our fathers praised you, has been destroyed by fire, and all that was so dear is in ruins.

UST

¹¹ Your glorious temple on Mountain Zion, where our ancestors worshiped you, has been completely burned up. And all our other beautiful things have been ruined.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 64:12**ULT**

¹² How can you still hold back, Yahweh? How can you remain silent and continue to humiliate us?"

UST

¹² Yahweh, you see all those things, but it seems that you refuse to do anything to help us. It seems that you will cause us to suffer much more."

What are the two questions the writer has for Yahweh?

The two questions are, "How can you still hold back, Yahweh?" and "How can you remain silent and continue to humiliate us?"

Isaiah 65

Isaiah 65:1

ULT

¹ "I was ready to be sought out by {those who} did not ask; I was ready to be found by {those who} did not seek. I said, 'Here I am! Here I am!' to a nation that did not call on my name.

UST

¹ This is what Yahweh said: "I was ready to reply to my people, but no one requested me to help them. I was ready to help even those who did not call out to me. I continued to say, 'I am here to help you!'

What did Yahweh want from those who did not ask and did not seek?

He wanted to be sought out and found by those who did not ask and did not seek.

Isaiah 65:2

ULT

² I have spread out my hands all day to a stubborn people, who walk in a way {that is} not good, who have walked after their own thoughts and plans!

UST

² It is as though I had continually held out my arms to show that I was ready to help my people who rebelled against me, and who continually did the evil things that they wanted to do.

What have these stubborn people walk after?

They have walked after their own thoughts and plans.

Isaiah 65:3

ULT

³ They are a people who continually offend me, offering sacrifices in gardens, and burning incense on brick tiles.

UST

³ They boldly continue to do things that cause me to be angry; they offer sacrifices to their idols in their gardens, and they burn incense to them on altars made of bricks and tiles.

What are some of the ways these people have been a continual offense to Yahweh? (vv3-4)

They are a continual offense to Yahweh because they offer sacrifices in gardens and burn incense on brick tiles. They sit among the graves and keep watch all night and eat pork with the broth of foul meat in their dishes.

Isaiah 65:4**ULT**

⁴ They sit among the graves and keep watch all night, and eat pork with the broth of fowl meat in their dishes.

UST

⁴ They remain awake at night in cemeteries, talking with the spirits of dead people. They eat the meat of pigs, and their pots are full of the broth of meat that is unacceptable to me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:5**ULT**

⁵ They say, 'Stand away, do not come near to me, for I am holier than you.' These things {are} smoke in my nose, a fire that burns all day long.

UST

⁵ Then they say to others, 'Stay away from me; do not come near me, because I am very holy, with the result that you should not touch me.' People like that are like smoke in my nose from a fire that burns continually.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:6**ULT**

⁶ Look, {it is} written before me: I will not keep quiet, for I will pay them back; I will repay them into their laps,

UST

⁶ I have written a record of all the evil things that they have done. And I will not remain silent about all those things; I will certainly punish these people

What did and what will Yahweh do to these stubborn people? (vv6-7)

He has paid them back and will repay them for their own sins and the sins of their fathers.

Isaiah 65:7**ULT**

⁷ for their sins and the sins of their fathers together," says Yahweh. "I will repay them for burning incense on the mountains and for mocking me on the hills. I will therefore measure out their past deeds into their laps."

UST

⁷ for the sins that they and their ancestors have committed. They have mocked me by burning incense to their idols on the hilltops. So I will punish them like they deserve for doing those things."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:8**ULT**

⁸ This is what Yahweh says, "As when juice is found in a cluster of grapes, when {one} says, 'Do not ruin it, for there is good in it,' this is what I will do for my servants' sake: I will not ruin them all.

UST

⁸ This is also what Yahweh said: "When there is a cluster of nice grapes on a vine, people do not throw them away, because they know that there is good juice in those grapes. Similarly, because there are some people in Judah who faithfully serve me, I will not get rid of all of them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:9**ULT**

⁹ I will bring descendants from Jacob, and from Judah ones who will possess my mountains. My chosen ones will possess the land, and my servants will live there.

UST

⁹ I will spare some of the descendants of Jacob who are living on the hills of Judah. I have chosen them, and they will possess that land; they will worship me, and they will live there.

What will Yahweh do for his chosen ones?

They will possess the land.

Isaiah 65:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Sharon will become a pasture for the flocks, and the Valley of Achor a resting place for herds, for my people who seek me.

UST

¹⁰ Then all the land from the Plain of Sharon near the Mediterranean Sea and as far east as the Valley of Achor near Jericho will become pastureland, where their cattle and sheep will rest.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:11**ULT**

¹¹ But you who abandon Yahweh, who forget my holy mountain, who prepare a table for Fortune, and fill wine glasses of mixed wine for Destiny.

UST

¹¹ But it will be different for you who have abandoned me, you who do not worship me on Zion, my sacred hill, you who worship Gad and Meni, the gods who you say will bring you good luck and good fortune.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:12**ULT**

¹² I will appoint you for the sword, and you will all bow down to the slaughter, because when I called, you did not answer; when I spoke, you did not listen. But you did what was evil in my sight and chose to do what displeases me."

UST

¹² It is I, not Meni, who will decide what will happen to you; you will all be slaughtered by swords. That will happen because you did not answer when I called out to you. I spoke to you, but you did not pay attention. Instead, you did things that I said are evil; you chose to do things that do not please me.

What will Yahweh do to those who abandon Yahweh?

He will destine them for the sword and they will all bow down to the slaughter.

Isaiah 65:13**ULT**

¹³ This is what the Lord Yahweh says, "Look, my servants will eat, but you will be hungry; look, my servants will drink, but you will be thirsty; look, my servants will rejoice, but you will be put to shame.

UST

¹³ I, Yahweh the Lord, will give to those who worship and obey me things to eat and drink, and they will be happy; but all you evil people will be hungry and thirsty, and you will be sad and disgraced.

What will happen to Yahweh's servants? (vv13-14)

They will eat, drink, rejoice and shout with joy.

What else will happen to those who abandon Yahweh? (vv13-14)

They will be hungry and thirsty. They will be put to shame and cry because of the pain of the heart and wail because of the crushing of the spirit.

Isaiah 65:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Look, my servants will shout with joy because of gladness of heart, but you will cry because of the pain of the heart, and will wail because of the crushing of the spirit.

UST

¹⁴ Those who worship and obey me will sing joyfully, but you evil people will wail loudly because you will be suffering in your inner beings.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:15**ULT**

¹⁵ You will leave behind your name as a curse for my chosen ones to speak; I, the Lord Yahweh, will kill you; I will call my servants by another name.

UST

¹⁵ Those whom I have chosen will use your names when they curse people; I, Yahweh the Lord, will get rid of you. But I will give to those who worship and obey me a new name.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Whoever pronounces a blessing on the earth will be blessed by me, the God of truth. Whoever takes an oath on the earth will swear by me, the God of truth, because the former troubles will be forgotten, for they will be hidden from my eyes.

UST

¹⁶ The people in this land have had many troubles, but I will cause those troubles to occur no more. Therefore those who request me to bless them and those who solemnly promise to do something should never forget that I am God, who faithfully do what I promise to do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:17**ULT**

¹⁷ For see, I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things will not be remembered or be brought to mind.

UST

¹⁷ Note this: Some day I will create a new heaven and a new earth. They will be very wonderful, with the result that you will no longer think about all the troubles you had previously.

What is Yahweh going to create?

Yahweh is going to create new heavens and a new earth.

Isaiah 65:18**ULT**

¹⁸ But you will be glad and rejoice forever in what I am about to create. See, I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and her people {as} a delight.

UST

¹⁸ Be glad and always rejoice because of what I will do: Jerusalem will be a place where people rejoice; the people who live there will always be happy.

What will be the response of Yahweh's servants to the new heavens and new earth?

They will be glad and rejoice forever in what Yahweh is about to create.

Isaiah 65:19**ULT**

¹⁹ I will rejoice over Jerusalem and be glad over my people; weeping and cries of distress will no longer be heard in her.

UST

¹⁹ I will rejoice about Jerusalem, and I will be delighted with my people. People will no longer weep or cry because of being distressed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:20**ULT**

²⁰ Never again will an infant {live} there {only a few} days; nor will an old man die before his time. One who dies at one hundred years old will be considered a young person. Anyone who fails to reach the age of one hundred years old will {be} considered cursed.

UST

²⁰ No child will die when it is still an infant; all people will live until they are very old. People will consider that anyone who is a hundred years old is still young; they will consider that anyone who dies who is younger than that has been cursed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:21**ULT**

²¹ They will build houses and inhabit {them}, and they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

UST

²¹ My people will build houses and then live in them. They will plant vineyards and then eat grapes from those vineyards.

What will the people do in the new Jerusalem?

They will build houses and inhabit them, and they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

Isaiah 65:22**ULT**

²² No longer will they build a house and another live in it; they will not plant, and another eat; for as the days of trees {will be} the days of my people. My chosen will fully outlive the work of their hands.

UST

²² The houses that they build, no one will take those houses away from them and live in them. No one will take a vineyard away from its owner. My chosen people will live a long time, like trees do, and they will enjoy the things that they have done— the houses that they have built and the crops that they have planted.

How many days will the people live?

They will live long lives like unto the days of trees.

Isaiah 65:23**ULT**

²³ They will not labor in vain, nor give birth to dismay. For they are the children of those blessed by Yahweh, and their descendants with them.

UST

²³ They will not work hard in vain, and their children will not die from some calamity. I will certainly bless their children and their grandchildren.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 65:24**ULT**

²⁴ Before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear.

UST

²⁴ Before they call to me to help them, I will answer; I will answer their prayers while they are still praying for me to do something for them.

In the new heavens and new earth when will Yahweh hear and answer his people?

While they are still speaking Yahweh will hear them, and before they call he will answer them.

Isaiah 65:25**ULT**

²⁵ The wolf and the lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox; but dust {will be} the serpent's food. They will no longer hurt nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says Yahweh.

UST

²⁵ No one will be harmed or injured anywhere on Zion, my sacred hill: wolves and lambs will eat grass together peacefully; lions will eat hay like oxen do, and they will not attack people. Snakes will not hurt anyone; they will lie on the ground and eat only dirt. That is surely what it will be like because I, Yahweh, have said it."

What will be different about the animals on all Yahweh's holy mountain?

The animals will no longer hurt or destroy one another. The wolf and the lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

Isaiah 66**Isaiah 66:1****ULT**

¹ This is what Yahweh says, "Heaven {is} my throne, and the earth {is} my footstool. Where then {is} the house you will build for me? Where {is} the place where I may rest?"

UST

¹ Yahweh also said this: "All of heaven is like my throne, and the whole earth is like my footstool. So you could certainly not build a house that would be adequate for me to live in and rest!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:2**ULT**

² My hand has made all these things; that is how these things came to be—this is Yahweh's declaration. This is the man of whom I approve, the broken and contrite in spirit, and who trembles at my word.

UST

² I have created everything; all things exist because I made them. That is true because I, Yahweh, have said it. The people I am most pleased with are those who are humble, who patiently endure it when they suffer, and who tremble when they hear me rebuking them.

Who made heaven and earth?

Yahweh made all these things with his own hand.

Of what kind of man does Yahweh approve?

Yahweh approves of men who are broken and contrite in spirit and tremble at his word.

Isaiah 66:3**ULT**

³ He who slaughters an ox {also} murders a man; he who sacrifices a lamb {also} breaks a dog's neck; he who offers a grain offering offers swine's blood; he who offers a memorial of incense {also} blesses wickedness. They have chosen their own ways, and they take pleasure in their abominations.

UST

³ You have chosen to continually do the things that you want to do: some of you slaughter oxen to sacrifice them to me, but you also bring human sacrifices to your idols! You sacrifice lambs to me, but you kill dogs to offer them to your gods. You offer grain to me, but you also bring pigs' blood to your idols. You burn incense to me, but you also praise your idols. You delight to do those disgusting things.

What examples does Isaiah give to show man's hypocrisy?

Yahweh says a man who slaughters an ox also murders a man. One who sacrifices a lamb also breaks a dog's neck. He who offers a grain offering offers swine's blood and he who offers a memorial of incense also blessed wickedness.

Isaiah 66:4**ULT**

⁴ In the same way I will choose their own punishment; I will bring on them what they fear, because when I called, no one answered; when I spoke, no one listened. They did what was evil in my sight, and chose to do {what} displeases me."

UST

⁴ When I called out to you, you did not answer. When I spoke, you did not pay attention. You did many things that I say are evil, and you chose to do things that I did not like. So now I will punish you by causing you to experience the things that you yourselves have done, that you yourselves are afraid of."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:5**ULT**

⁵ Hear the word of Yahweh, you who tremble at his word, “Your brothers who hate and exclude you for my name’s sake have said, ‘May Yahweh be glorified, then we will see your joy,’ but they will be put to shame.

UST

⁵ But you people who tremble when you hear what Yahweh says, listen to what he says now: “Some of your people hate you and drive you away because you belong to me. They make fun of you, and they say, ‘Yahweh should show his glorious power! We want to see him do something to cause you to be truly happy.’ But some day those people will be very disgraced.”

What do the brothers of those who tremble at the word of Yahweh do to them?

Their brothers hate and exclude those who tremble at the word of Yahweh.

Isaiah 66:6**ULT**

⁶ A sound of battle tumult comes from the city, a sound from the temple, the sound of Yahweh paying back his enemies.

UST

⁶ At that time, you will listen to the noise in the city. You will hear the shouting in the temple. It will be the sound of Yahweh paying back his enemies.

What is the sound that came from the city and the temple?

It was the sound of battle tumult coming from the city, the sound of Yahweh paying back his enemies.

Isaiah 66:7**ULT**

⁷ Before she goes into labor, she gives birth; before pain is upon her, she gave birth to a {son.}

UST

⁷ No one ever heard that a woman gave birth to a baby when she was just starting to have birth pains.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:8**ULT**

⁸ Who has heard of such a thing? Who has seen such things? Will a land be born in one day? Can a nation be established in one moment? Yet as soon as Zion goes into labor, she gives birth to her children.

UST

⁸ Certainly no one ever heard about such a thing happening, and no one has ever seen it happen. Similarly, no one ever heard that a nation was created in one instant, not in one day. But Jerusalem is like a woman who gives birth to children as soon as she starts to have birth pains.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:9**ULT**

⁹ Do I bring a baby to the birth opening and not permit the child to be born?—asks Yahweh. Or do I bring a child to the moment of delivery and then hold it back?—asks your God.”

UST

⁹ Women certainly do not bring infants to the time when they are ready to be born and then do not allow them to be born. Similarly, Yahweh will do for Jerusalem what he has promised to do: he will cause Jerusalem to be full of people again. That will happen because Yahweh has said it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her, all you who mourned over her!

UST

¹⁰ You people in Jerusalem, rejoice! And all you people who love Jerusalem should also be happy. You people who were sad because of what happened to Jerusalem, you should now be glad.

Why should all who love Jerusalem rejoice with her and be glad for her? (vv10-11)

We should rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, for you will nurse and be satisfied; with her breasts you will be comforted; for you will drink to the full and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.

Isaiah 66:11**ULT**

¹¹ For you will nurse and be satisfied; with her breasts you will be comforted; for you will drink them to the full and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.

UST

¹¹ You people in Jerusalem will have everything that you need, like a baby that gets all it needs from its mother's breasts. You will enjoy all the abundant and glorious things in the city.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:12**ULT**

¹² This is what Yahweh says, "I am about to spread prosperity over her like a river, and the riches of the nations like an overflowing stream. You will nurse at {her} side, be carried in {her} arms, and be dandled on {her} knees.

UST

¹² Yahweh has promised, "I will cause Jerusalem to be full of valuable things that come from other nations; those things will pour into Jerusalem; it will be like a big flood. I will take care of the people of Jerusalem like women care for the babies that they nurse.

What is Yahweh about to spread over Jerusalem?

Yahweh is about to spread prosperity over Jerusalem like a river, and the riches of the nations like an overflowing stream.

Isaiah 66:13**ULT**

¹³ As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you, and you will be comforted in Jerusalem."

UST

¹³ I will comfort you people in Jerusalem like mothers comfort their children."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:14**ULT**

¹⁴ You will see {this}, and your heart will rejoice, and your bones will sprout like the tender grass. The hand of Yahweh will be made known to his servants, but he will show {his} anger against his enemies.

UST

¹⁴ When you see those things happen, you will rejoice. Your old bones will become strong again like in the springtime, when the grass grows. When that happens, everyone will know that Yahweh has power to help those who worship and obey him, but that he is angry with his enemies.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For look, Yahweh is coming with fire, and his chariots are coming like the windstorm to bring the heat of his anger and his rebuke with flames of fire.

UST

¹⁵ Yahweh will come down with flames of fire, and his chariots will come down like a whirlwind; he will be extremely angry, and he will punish his enemies by burning them in a fire.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:16**ULT**

¹⁶ For Yahweh executes judgment on mankind by fire and with his sword. Those killed by Yahweh will be many.

UST

¹⁶ It is as though Yahweh had a big sword, and he will judge and execute many people.

What will Yahweh use to execute judgment on mankind?

He will use fire and his sword.

Isaiah 66:17**ULT**

¹⁷ They consecrate themselves and make themselves pure, {so they may} enter the gardens, following the one in the middle of those who eat the flesh of pig and abominable things like mice. ^[1] “They will come to an end—this is Yahweh’s declaration.

UST

¹⁷ Yahweh says, “Some of you will prepare yourselves to enter the garden of idols by washings and special diets and clothing, and you follow into that place, those who eat the meat of pigs and mice, and other things that I have forbidden you to eat. I promise you, I will stop them and they will not do this any more!”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:18**ULT**

¹⁸ For I {know} their deeds and their thoughts. The time is coming when I will gather all nations and languages. They will come and will see my glory. ^[2]

UST

¹⁸ I know all the evil things that they all think and do. It is now time for me to gather together the people who live in all nations and who speak all languages, and to show them that I am very great.

Why will Yahweh gather all nations and languages? (vv18-19)

Yahweh will gather all nations and languages so they may come and see his glory and so that some of those who survive can return to their nations to proclaim Yahweh’s glory among the nations.

Isaiah 66:19**ULT**

¹⁹ I will set a sign among them. Then I will send survivors from them to the nations: {To} Tarshish, Put, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal, Javan, and {to} the distant coastlands where they have not heard about me nor seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations.

UST

¹⁹ I will do something among them to show everyone who they are, and those whom I have spared will go to various distant countries: To Tarshish, Put, Lud (home of archers), Meshech, Tubal, Javan, and to distant islands. I will send them to proclaim to nations that have never heard about me that I am very great and glorious.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:20**ULT**

²⁰ They will bring back all your brothers out of all the nations, as an offering to Yahweh. They will come on horses, and in chariots, in wagons, on mules, and on camels, to my holy mountain Jerusalem—says Yahweh. For the people of Israel will bring a grain offering in a clean vessel into the house of Yahweh.

UST

²⁰ Then they will bring back here your relatives who have been exiled, like the offerings that my Israelite people used to bring in the correct manner to the temple. They will travel to Jerusalem, where my holy mountain is; they will come on horses and in chariots, in wagons, on mules and on camels.

Who will be given as an offering to Yahweh?

The brothers of Israel from out of all the nations will be given as an offering to Yahweh.

Isaiah 66:21**ULT**

²¹ Some of these I will even choose as priests {and} Levites—says Yahweh.

UST

²¹ I solemnly promise that I will appoint some of them to be priests, and others to do other work in my temple. That will surely happen because I, Yahweh, have said it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:22**ULT**

²² For just as the new heavens and the new earth that I will make will remain before me—this is Yahweh's declaration—so your descendants will remain, and your name will remain.

UST

²² I also promise that just like the new heaven and the new earth will last forever, you will always have descendants, and you will always be honored.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Isaiah 66:23**ULT**

²³ From one month to the next, and from one Sabbath to the next, all people will come to bow down to me—says Yahweh.

UST

²³ At every festival to celebrate the Sabbath each week and the new moon each month, everyone will come and worship me. That will surely happen because I, Yahweh, have said it.

What will the people do month to month and sabbath to sabbath?

All people will come and bow down to Yahweh month to month and sabbath to sabbath.

Isaiah 66:24**ULT**

²⁴ They will go out and see the dead bodies of the men who have rebelled against me, for the worms that eat them will not die, and the fire that consumes them will not be quenched; and it will be an abhorrence to all flesh.”

66:17 ^[1]

66:18 ^[2]

UST

²⁴ Then they will go out of Jerusalem and look at the corpses of those who rebelled against me. The maggots in those corpses will never die, the fire will never stop burning them, and everyone who sees their corpses will detest them.”

What will happen to the dead bodies of the men who have rebelled against Yahweh?

Worms will eat them and fire will consume them.

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