

ISAIAH 38-55



The Book of the Servant

ISAIAH 38-55

The Book of the Servant

Johan Slabbert

Isaiah 38-55

The Book of the Servant

Copyright © 2026 by Johan Slabbert
Brackenfell Community Church
johan@brackenfellchurch.co.za
<http://www.brackenfellchurch.co.za>

Scripture Quotations

NIV/NIB

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the THE HOLY BIBLE: NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society, www.ibs.org. All rights reserved.

ESV

Scripture Quotations indicated as (ESV) are taken from THE HOLY BIBLE: THE ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION (ESV). Copyright © 2001, 2007.

Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers.

NAS/NAU

Scripture Quotations indicated as (NASB) are taken from THE NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE (NASB) (NAS [1977] and NAU [1995]). © Copyright The Lockman Foundation 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1988, 1995. All rights reserved.

Acknowledgements

Cover Photo: **Samantha Fortney**

Cover design: **Johan Slabbert**

Language Editor: **Helaine Pelser**

Bible Study Resources

God speaks to the believer through the Bible and enables understanding and change of life through the Holy Spirit (John 3:5-6; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 1 Corinthians 12:13; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 6:17).

All of our resources are freely available to everyone for the glory of God.

If you use our resources:

- Please acknowledge the author.
- Please do not change the content without prior written consent.

Resources available at present.

Old Testament

1. Genesis – Shadows of Christ in Genesis
2. Judges – Even in Times of Darkness
3. Psalms – Prayers and Songs for All Times
4. Proverbs 1-9 – Wisdom for Life
5. Song of Songs – Wisdom in Love and Marriage
6. Isaiah 38-55 – The Book of the Servant
7. Isaiah 56-66 – The Book of the Conqueror
8. Daniel – YAHWEH's Eternal Kingdom
9. Habakkuk – The Righteous by Faith Shall Live
10. Haggai – The Greater Glory to Come
11. Zechariah – YAHWEH remembers to Bless
12. Malachi – The God who Deserves all Worship

New Testament

1. Matthew 5 to 7 – Messiah's Manifesto (What it means to be a Disciple)
2. Matthew 16:13-17:9 – The Church of Christ amidst the Chaos
3. Romans 8 – Life in the Spirit
4. Romans 9-11 – Israel in the Plan of God
5. Galatians – Justification by Faith Alone
6. Colossians – The Supremacy of Christ
7. 1 Thessalonians – Conversion to Consummation
8. Hebrews – The Radiance of God's Glory
9. Titus – God's Instruction for Growing a Healthy Church
10. James – The Testing of Your Faith
11. Jude – Keeping the Faith Despite the Scourge of False Teachers
12. Revelation – King of kings and Lord of lords

Introduction: The Book of the Servant		1
Hezekiah and the Way of Faith	38:1-39:8	
1. Hezekiah's Faith Strengthened	38:1-22	4
2. Hezekiah's Faith Falters	39:1-8	8
Consolation for God's People	40:1-41:20	
3. Three Voices of Consolation	40:1-11	11
4. YAHWEH, the Incomparable One	40:12-31	17
5. God, His People and the Nations	41:1-20	21
Consolation for the Nations	41:21-42:17	
6. The Plight of the Nations	41:21-29	25
7. The LORD's Servant <i>Servant Song 1</i>	42:1-9	28
8. The Song of Praise	42:10-17	32
Redemption from Earthly Captivity	42:18-43:21	
9. Redemption from Earthly Captivity	42:18-25	34
10. Fear Not! The Certainty of Redemption	43:1-13	36
11. "I Am the LORD!"	43:14-21	40
Redemption from Spiritual Captivity	43:22-44:23	
12. Redemption from Spiritual Captivity	43:22-28	43
13. The Spirit of the LORD	44:1-8	47
14. Idols and their Power	44:9-23	50
The Earthly Deliverance: the Work of Cyrus	44:24-48:22	
15. Cyrus: Builder and Conqueror	44:24-45:13	53
16. No Other Saviour	45:14-25	56
17. I will Carry You	46:1-13	60
18. The Fall of Babylon	47:1-15	64
19. Free at Last!	48:1-11	67
20. The LORD who Speaks!	48:12-22	70

The Spiritual Deliverance: Work of the Servant 49:1-55:13

21.	The Servant's Double Task <i>Servant Song 2</i>	49:1-13	76
22.	Divine Confirmation: Worldwide Success	49:14-26	80
23.	Nation and Servant, a Contrast <i>Servant Song 3</i>	50:1-11	83
24.	The LORD who Comforts Zion	51:1-16	87
25.	The LORD's Love for Zion	51:17-52:12	92
26.	Redeeming Zion by Substitution <i>Servant Song 4</i>	52:13-53:12	96
27.	Redeeming Zion by Substitution Part II	52:13-53:12	102

The Servant's Accomplishment and Reward 54:1-55:13

28.	The Glory of Zion	54:1-17	107
29.	The Great Banquet	55:1-13	111

Conclusion: The Book of the Servant	115
-------------------------------------	-----

Bibliography	117
--------------	-----

The New Testament and the Servant of the LORD	118
---	-----

Answers	121
---------	-----

Rulers of Judah and the Contemporary Assyrian Kings

Uzziah/Azariah	781–740 BC	Tiglath Pileser III (Pul)	745–727 BC
Jotham	740–736 BC	Tiglath Pileser III (Pul)	745–727 BC
Ahaz	736–716 BC	Tiglath Pileser III (Pul)	745–727 BC
Siege of Samaria		Shalmaneser	727–722 BC
Fall of Samaria			722 BC
Final Destruction Of Israel		Sargon II	721–705 BC
Hezekiah	716–687 BC	Sennacherib	705–681 BC
Siege of Jerusalem			701 BC
Manasseh	697–642 BC	Esarhaddon	681–669 BC
Manasseh	697–642 BC	Ashurbanipal	668–627 BC
Amon	642–640 BC	Ashurbanipal	668–627 BC
Josiah	640–609 BC	Sin-Shar-Ishkun	627–612 BC
		Nineveh's Destruction	612 BC

Rulers of Judah and the Contemporary Babylonian Kings

Jehoahaz	609 BC	Nabupolassar	626–606 BC
Jehoiakim	609–598 BC	Nebuchadnezzar	605–562 BC
First Deportation			605 BC
Jehoiachin	598–597 BC	Nebuchadnezzar	
Second Deportation			597 BC
Zedekiah	597–586 BC	Nebuchadnezzar	
Fall of Jerusalem			586 BC
		Evil-Merodach	562–560 BC
		Nergal Sharezer	560–556 BC
		Nabonidus	556–539 BC
		Belshazzar	542–539 BC
		Fall of Babylon	539 BC

The Servant Songs

Servant Song 1	Isaiah 42:1-4
Servant Song 2	Isaiah 49:1-6
Servant Song 3	Isaiah 50:4-9
Servant Song 4	Isaiah 52:13-53:12

The non-predicated 'I am He' statements

1. Isaiah 41:4 Who has done this and carried it through, calling forth the generations from the beginning? I, the LORD--with **the first of them and with the last--I am he.**"
2. Isaiah 43:10 "You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that **I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.**
3. Isaiah 43:13 Yes, and **from ancient days I am he.** No-one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it?"
4. Isaiah 43:25 "I, even **I, am he who blots out your transgressions**, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.
5. Isaiah 46:4 Even to your old age and grey hairs **I am he, I am he who will sustain you.** I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.
6. Isaiah 48:12 "Listen to me, O Jacob, Israel, whom I have called: **I am he; I am the first and I am the last.**
7. Isaiah 51:12 "I, even **I, am he who comforts you.** Who are you that you fear mortal men, the sons of men, who are but grass...