

Understand your Bible

Suggested notes

Isaiah 11

Background to the chapter

The prophet Isaiah lived under the threat of the powerful Assyrian Empire which took some Israelites captive. His book contains several prophecies about God's promised special person.

What we will see in this chapter:

- How the rule of God's special person will be unlike that of any other ruler in the past
- What will happen to Israel and Judah

1 Read the chapter

2 Questions to help us in our understanding of this chapter. Look at the chapter verses in your Bible and use the questions to help you make your notes.

Text note on v 1:

The verse is saying poetically that as a branch that sprouts from a tree stump, a special descendant will come from the family of Jesse, [the father of David, who was the second king of Israel].

Chapter verses	Questions (to help with your notes)	Suggested notes
2 to 5	1. How will God's special person use his wisdom? <i>Text note: Equity is fairness without favour.</i>	He will have God's wisdom to defend the helpless and overcome oppressors.
6 to 8	2. What will the natural world be like under his rule?	Under his rule the natural world will be at peace.
9 and 10	3. How will the nations react to this person?	All people will know God and will want to follow this special descendant of Jesse.
11 & 12	4. What will the Lord do for the outcasts of Israel and the dispersed of Judah?	He will regather Israel and Judah from all over the world.
13	5. What will happen to the envy of Ephraim and the persecution of Judah?	They will end.

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14	6. What will they do to the Philistines, Edom, Moab and the children of Ammon?	They will plunder and overpower them.
15 & 16	7. What will happen to the remnant from Assyria?	They will come back in the same way as they came out of Egypt.

3 Related theme: *The special person will have God's wisdom.*

Have a look at these related verses and see this theme running through the Bible. Make a note of the main point(s) in the verse(s).

Verse(s)	Main point(s)
Psalms 72 v 1 and 2	His rule will be free from corruption.
Isaiah 32 v 1	His reign will be morally right with God.
Isaiah 42 v 1 and 4	He will bring justice to all.
Jeremiah 23 v 5	This wise, just king will be a descendant of king David.