

Isaiah c. 740-680 BC

Isaiah the prophet lived in Jerusalem during invasions by the expanding Assyrian empire.

When the Assyrians threatened Judah, the book of Isaiah relates that Isaiah told King Hezekiah to trust in God alone. King Hezekiah listened, and miraculously, King Sennacherib of the Assyrians turned back, and Jerusalem was spared. 2 Kings 19:35 says, “And the angel of the Lord went forth, and slew 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. . .” The historian Herodotus also writes of this miracle.

Later, regarding the Babylonian captivity, Isaiah accurately prophesies Cyrus the Great and the return to Jerusalem, bringing hope and consolation to the Jews.

Isaiah is called the *Messianic Prophet*, because of two main messages: (1) trust only in God and (2) look to the coming of the Messiah. “Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” (Is 7:14)