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# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. ISAIAH

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## CHAPTERS 40-66

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### Lesson 1 - Introduction

#### Introduction

Let's play a game of Isaiah trivia. Before studying this book of the Bible. Let's find out how much you know about it.

Who is the most quoted prophet in the New Testament?

- a. Jeremiah      b. Ezekiel      c. Isaiah      d. Amos

How many chapters of Isaiah are quoted in the New Testament?

- a. 5      b. 38      c. 30      d. 66

What is the only book that matches Isaiah in number and importance of Messianic prophecies?

- a. Genesis      b. Exodus      c. Psalms      d. Proverbs

**Lesson Goal: Address the biggest question regarding Book II (chapters 40-66) of Isaiah, which is the question of authorship.**

#### Testimony of the text

If one assumes that the book of Isaiah is one unified text, then the answer to the question of authorship based on the testimony of the text is simple. Let's look to Isaiah 1:1 to see who the text claims the author is.

When did Isaiah prophesy according to this verse?

Now, look to Isaiah 6:1 to see when Isaiah was commissioned as a prophet.

As a prophet, what was Isaiah's message to be according to Isaiah 6:9-12?

More details about the man, Isaiah:

He was married (8:3).

He had two sons (7:3, 8:3).

His dad's name was Amoz. (1:1)



## Questions of authorship

Before addressing this question, you should know something about the outline of the book.

Agree or Disagree: It is not a mark of orthodoxy to view Isaiah as the author of this book of the Bible.

React to this statement: God inspired multiple authors to write the Psalms, so he could use multiple authors to write the book known as Isaiah. (Reference 2 Peter 1:21)

The textual questions people raise:

He mentions Cyrus by name (44:28, 45:1).

Knowledge of Babylonian deities (46:1-2)

Knowledge of Babylonian magic and astrology (47:12-13)



Considering some of these authorship issues, what real problem do people have with the authorship of Isaiah 40-66? (Reference Isaiah 41:21-24)

## Scripture interprets Scripture

2 Chronicles points to Isaiah as a prophetic author. Let's read 2 Chronicles 26:22 and 32:32. What writings does 2 Chronicles ascribe to Isaiah?

Read John 12:38-41. Here John quotes from Book II and then Book I; how could someone read this and deny Isaianic authorship of the whole book?

## Conclusion

According to the Scriptures, who wrote Isaiah 40-66?