

## Some Facts About Isaiah:

“The Dean of the Prophets”

Labored during reigns of Uzziah, Jothan, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (740-700 BC).

An adviser to kings, reformer, statesman.

“Heart in things of eternity, mouth and hands in things of time, his spirit in the eternal counsel of God, his body in the very moment of history,” G. Robinson

## Facts About The Book Of Isaiah

Contains 66 chapters

Chapters 1-39, the Assyrian period (closing with prophecy concerning Babylon, 39)

Chapters 40-66, Hope for Troubled Times

- a. Chapters 40-48, Contrast between Jehovah and Idols
- b. Chapters 49-57, the Servant and the glory of Zion.
- c. Chapters 58-66, National sins, Redemption by Jehovah, and future glory.

## Isaiah – A “Miniature Bible”

First 39 chapters (like the books of the Old Testament) filled with judgments from God, pronounced against the disobedient.

The last 27 chapters (40-66) deliver a message of hope – the Messiah is coming!

## Isaiah Chapter 57 – 3 Divisions

Isaiah 57:1-2, the righteous dead “enter into peace.”

Isaiah 57:3-13, Wickedness, idolatry, and faithlessness rebuked.

Isaiah 57:14-21, God offers healing for the penitent backsliders.

## Isaiah 57:14 Examined – Who Is Speaking?

“Take the stumbling block out of the way of My people, v. 14; cf. 58:1.

“The High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity,” 57:15

“Whose name is holy,” v. 15.

“I dwell in the high and holy place, v. 15.

“With him who has a contrite and humble spirit,” v. 15.

## Text: “Take the Stumbling block out of the way of my people”

The same idea occurs on other occasions.

Isaiah 40:3-4

Isaiah 57:14

Isaiah 62:10 – in a Messianic context

The points in all three references:

God’s people were to gather up the stones, prepare the way, remove any stumbling block that could come between the lost and their salvation!

### **The Problem in Isaiah 57:14 – Stumbling blocks placed in the way!**

Stumbling block of Idolatry, Isaiah 57:5  
Fasting for the wrong reasons, Isaiah 58:4;  
cf. vs. 6-7.

Profaning the Sabbath, Isaiah 58:13.

More General sins, Isaiah 59:7

God said

“Take up the Stumbling Blocks!”

### **God still Says**

**“Remove the Stumbling Blocks!”**

Matthew 18:6-9

Romans 14:13,15,21

I Corinthians 8:8-9,12-13

### **Important Observations:**

We are our “brother’s keeper!” Genesis  
4:8-9.

Our actions must be motivated by love, I  
Corinthians 16:14

- a. Love for God, I John 5:3
- b. Love for others, Luke 10:25-37

Translated into practice – means remove  
the stumbling blocks!

### **Some Stumbling Blocks That should be taken out of the way:**

Immodest Apparel, I Timothy 2:9-10;

Isaiah 57:8; Genesis 2:25; Matthew 5:28

Social Drinking, Romans 14:21; I Peter 4:3

Tobacco and other addictive drugs, I  
Corinthians 9:25,27.

Profanity, Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 3:8

### **More Stumbling Blocks**

An Explosive Temper, Ephesians 4:26;  
Proverbs 14:17.

Indifference, Revelation 3:15-16

Slow Brains and Fast Tongues, James 1:19;  
Proverbs 13:3; 21:23. It is easy to jump  
to conclusions and run people down  
before we know the facts! Colossians 4:6

### **Conclusion: Two people whose salvation I should really desire**

My Own!

Whoever I may meet, see, be seen by, or have a  
chance to influence, either directly or  
indirectly.

This concern requires 3 things of me:

- a. Obey the gospel, Romans 6:17
- b. Body a living sacrifice, Romans 12:1-2.
- c. Be the light of the world, Matthew 5:16

## **What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

**Hear the word, Romans 10:17**

**Believe the Gospel, Mark 16:15-16**

**Repent of sins, Acts 2:38; 17:30**

**Confess faith, Acts 8:37**

**Be Baptized “for the remissions of sins,”  
Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:27**

**Be Faithful, Revelation 2:10**