



Isaiah for Airheads

John Bytheway

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If you think understanding passages from Isaiah is like trying to find your way through a dense and dark forest, then you'll appreciate the informative and enjoyable Isaiah for Airheads. After many years of personal study and preparation, John Bytheway has created and mapped out the "Isaiah National Forest." He offers the reader "four guides, four trees, and four keys"—useful tools for approaching any Isaiah chapter, specifically those found in 2 Nephi. In addition, he explains latter-day relevance for each chapter and shows how these scriptures can strengthen our homes, families, and testimonies. A talk on CD is included in the back of the book, featuring John's unique teaching style. After reading and listening to Isaiah for Airheads, you'll echo the feeling, "great are the words of Isaiah!" Hardcover book with Talk on CD!

Isaiah for Airheads Details

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Author : John Bytheway

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From Reader Review Isaiah for Airheads for online ebook

Keri-Lynn says

Excellent information, better than any other commentary I've read before on Isaiah. My only "dislike" was the format of the book. I certainly understood why the author chose it, as it had its merits, but what I would have liked is a "read this passage" and then follow up with this commentary or an inclusion of more verses of Isaiah in the text, rather than just partial phrases. I know it would have been a bigger-and thus more expensive-book, but it would have been nice to have it all together that way. We debated from the beginning whether to read the Isaiah/2nd Nephi chapters in full before reading the commentary, and we tried that, but there just wasn't time to do both in a morning's reading time and reading the scriptural text and then the commentary a day or two later was too much of a gap. Ultimately we chose to rely on memory of the scriptural text and read the commentary only, though we certainly did have to look up a few Isaiah passages when memory failed. The four stars are for the structure of the book, not for the content, which was superb. I know it would have been hard to write/publish the book any other way, but perhaps just a little of "put this book down now and go to the scriptures and read these verses" and then the commentary might have helped.

Kristopher Swinson says

It's closer to a reasonable Sunday School level of perusal, less, than most commentaries are more.

alisonwonderland says

1/4/2015:

I used this book quite extensively in my studies of Isaiah last year. I planned to read the book cover-to-cover, but that didn't happen. (I'm actually not sure I've ever read it cover-to-cover - or maybe I'd just forgotten a lot of it since 2006 - but it's an awesome reference book for better understanding the words of Isaiah!)

4/18/2008:

I've used this book with my Sunday School class of 14- and 15-year-olds. Bytheway gives some good insights into better understanding the words of Isaiah.

Now that I'm studying Isaiah again, I'm returning to this book for further insights.

Susan says

Totally loved it.

Jodi Hawkins says

Good thoughts and resources. Now to learn more.....

Blake says

It makes Isaiah a TON clearer

Jamie says

This is a great read-along book for anyone who struggles with understanding Isaiah. It contains insights about all of the Book of Mormon Isaiah chapters and for me, it really opened Isaiah and made it exciting to read. Although we've been commanded to study and learn these particular passages, I've always felt as though I were standing on the other side of a locked door when it comes to them. This book presents the keys and gives a break-down that literally guides you through the chapters and helps the reader become independently engaged in unlocking these amazing treasures. I've read it completely through while following along with the scriptures and have begun again breaking them down a few verses at a time and then journaling about them so I can write my own commentary to help me better retain what I'm learning. In doing so, I've discovered why we are commanded to know them and understand them. Isaiah knew so much about our day and the calamities and challenges we would face as a people and particularly a nation. He also discusses what are now current worldwide events but in his day, future prophecy. These chapters are amazing and well worth the time to reveal!

Shawna says

Prepping for seminary. Good introduction to well documented insights of the words of Isaiah. I'd consider it a high school (seminary) explanation. However there are other resources used for a more advanced or thoughtful student.

Nathan says

Finally I got something out of Isaiah besides a headache and guilt. It took me a long time to get through it by the time I marked my scriptures and all.

Maria says

If you're LDS and you've read the Book of Mormon, you may be just as confused as everyone else by the Isaiah chapters. They are loaded with symbolism and ancient "manner of prophesying." If you don't get it, THIS IS THE BOOK FOR YOU. I LOVE John Bytheway. He writes and speaks for the youth of the church. He doesn't even pretend to be a great intellectual, although his manner of teaching gets the point of deep

thoughts across just fine.

In this book, he first explains about Isaiah and what he's talking about and how to "listen" to what he's saying. Then he goes through, chapter by chapter, the Isaiah chapters and explains the overview, breaks it down in to sub-categories, then breaks THEM down verse by verse (sometimes line by line) and explains them. He explains the history and geography of the region, which is important in understanding some of these writings, and it's just an awesome book to have sitting at your elbow when you read these important chapters.

Wendy says

A lot of good information gathered from many sources and great ideas for studying.

Mary L. says

Not the easiest reading--but then Isaiah is hard! Enjoyed most his insights at the end of the book; especially slow down and think about it rather than just plowing through it.

Marinda Misra says

Wow. I can't believe how clear John Bytheway made Isaiah for me! As always, his writing style is one of the most approachable I've ever read, but his method that he explains for how to tackle "Isaiah National Forest" changed my perspective and has given me a frame work to bring to my study. I would definitely recommend this book, particularly if you're planning on reading it WITH the scriptures - I tried just blazing through a couple of chapters and it is really dry without reading, you know, what it is actually giving commentary on!

Shelli says

I didn't close this book feeling as enlightened as I usually do after reading scripture commentary books. I love John's ability to bring principles to life through stories and ideas, but for deep doctrinal stuff I think I'll go elsewhere in the future. I love him, just not for this. I can certainly see how others would though ... totally my own personal learning style here.

Cindy says

I'm teaching a class on Isaiah, so this has been a huge help to this "airhead". Thanks to my friend Eric for loaning this book to me.
