

## WEEK THIRTY-ONE INTRODUCTION

Chapters 56-66 of the book of Isaiah focus on the messianic portrait of the Anointed Conqueror. In the Messiah, the Trinity is at work. Nahum exercised his prophetic ministry around the mid-600s BC. He focuses his prophetic attention to Ninevah. The same Ninevah which was so responsive to Jonah's message of repentance proves to fall into spiritual hardness. The theme of the Lord as conqueror appears both in the last section of Isaiah as well as Ninevah. Manasseh's wickedness sets himself as well as the people against the Lord so much so that God promises to conquer Jerusalem (2 Kings 21:12). Yet, even amid judgment, God's mercy shines through during the reign of Josiah.

### KEY SCRIPTURE

*The Spirit of the Lord GOD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and freedom to the prisoners – Isaiah 61:1 CSB*

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**According to Isaiah 59:2, what does sin do to our relationship with God? How does God respond to His people's waywardness? What does He do in Isaiah 59:15-20?**

**Describe the future hope presented in Isaiah 65:17-25. What elements particularly stand out to you? Why do you think it is these elements that resonate with you? How does God's promise fill in your brokenness?**

**Read Isaiah 66:18-23 and compare it with Isaiah 2:5-18. How does Isaiah 66 fulfill and expand Isaiah 2? What are the common themes?**

What defines Manasseh's reign? Compare and contrast the depiction of Manasseh in 2 Kings 21 and 2 Chronicles 33. How does *leadership* shape and direct the people? How are you influencing those you lead?

How is God depicted in Nahum 1? Make a list. What surprises you? How do you see these attributes on display in Jesus and His gospel?

Zephaniah 3 is full of God's love and good news! How does Zephaniah 3:15 demonstrate the Lord as conqueror? What should God's people's response be according to verse 14? Does this work of God prompt you in the same way?

According to 2 Chronicles 34:3, where did the revival under Josiah begin? Where ought it begin with us?

**BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

“The LORD your God is among you, a warrior who saves. He will rejoice over you with gladness. He will be quiet in his love. He will delight in you with singing.”

**-Zephaniah 3:17 CSB**

**Read this verse 7 times and sit quietly for 2 minutes meditating on this truth. In Christ this verse is true of you.**