

STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS – WEEK 41

1. According to Isaiah, what will happen to Judah if it continues to seek a military alliance with Egypt? Why?

2. In Isaiah 32:1-8, the prophet describes a time when Judah will be ruled by a just government. What will be the signs that this has taken place? What will happen to the people?

3. What historical event is being prophesied in Isaiah 35? What meaning would this text have had for its original audience? Why do we read this chapter during the Advent season in the Christian church today? What meaning does it hold for us?

4. How does the tone of the Book of Isaiah change from Chapters 39 to 40? Why?

5. What do you feel was Paul's primary reason for writing to the Philippians? What is the main emphasis of his letter? What is he encouraging them to do?

6. Some scholars believe that a disciple of Paul, not Paul himself, is the author of the letter to the Colossians. Would you agree with this assertion? Why or why not?

7. How does the author of Colossians define and describe Christ? What is the new life that Christ brings? How can we embody that new life? How will that new life affect husbands, wives, and children in a "Christian" household? What is added to the rules for the Christian household that were not included in Ephesians? What are we to do today with a text about rules for slaves and Masters (Col 3:22-4:1)? What authority does it hold? Why?

8. Do you believe 1 Thessalonians 2:14-16 is a "text of terror?" Why or why not? Does your opinion change if you read it from the perspective of a Jewish person? Why or why not?