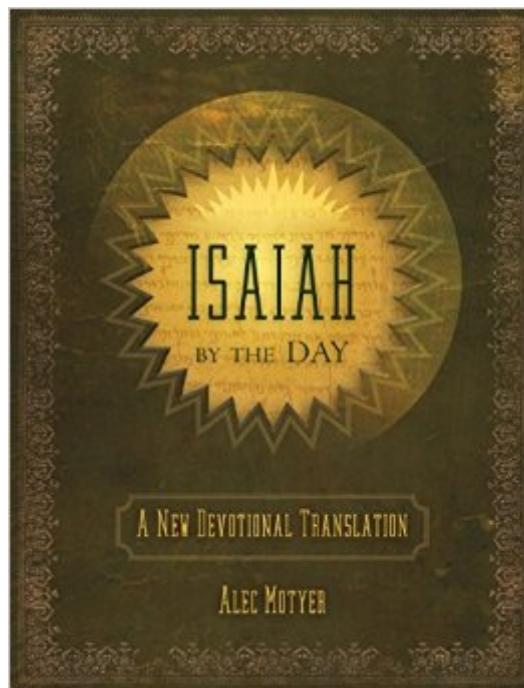


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Isaiah By The Day: A New Devotional Translation (Daily Readings)



Synopsis

These daily devotionals are birthed from a lifetime of study on the prophecy of Isaiah. Day by day you will be provided with passages from Isaiah and an opportunity to explore the passage further. Take time to acquaint yourself with these passages from God's Word and treasure them in your heart.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sometimes you just have to lay your cards out on the table to begin with, and I'm going to do that now...Motyer's *Isaiah By The Day: A New Devotional Translation* is fantastic! Here we have a first-rate Old Testament scholar bringing together his gifts as a commentator, translator, and exegete into a Christ-centered devotional tool that applies the text responsibly and practically while guiding the reader through digestible portions God's Word each day. The book begins with a helpful introductory section which provides the reader with a general outline of Isaiah, allowing for a broad understanding of the author's structure. Four simple divisions allow for an easily remembered "map" of the book: Isaiah's preface (Chs. 1-5), The Book of the King (Chs. 6-37), The Book of the Servant (Chs. 38-55), and The Book of the Conqueror (Chs. 56-66). Additionally, Motyer (pronounced "Moh-teer") is careful to explain his translation process and certain aspects of Isaiah's style and structure to keep in mind while reading. The introduction provides the most pertinent information for the reader giving them needed technical knowledge without being overbearing. All in all, he aims to

be consistent and faithful to the text while retaining the beauty of Isaiah's Hebrew. The notes to the right of each day's translation are a distilled commentary that provides the reader with helpful background, linguistic, textual, and contextual remarks that do well in keeping from becoming over-technical or distracting from the text itself. It's as if Motyer is there along the way, as a teacher, heading off that which may be overly confusing and highlighting that which may be often overlooked. Additionally, there is ample note taking space on each page, making it easy to mark the text and record thoughts, questions, and reactions without becoming overly cluttered. One thing to mention is that the text does read a bit rigidly as compared to most modern translations. However, the raw nature seems to awaken the beauty and straight-forward nature of many portions of the text and add to the distinctiveness of this work. Moving to the application portion of each day's entry, Motyer has succeeded in including the text's contemporary significance, connection to Christ, as well as its ecclesial, social/societal, and individual bearing. While many devotionals aim to apply the text through simplistic, often cheesy, questions, Motyer has given the reader the opportunity to significantly understand and apply the text through well-thought, timely, pointed, and pastorally-natured questions. Overall, I don't believe you will find another devotional as distinct and substantial as Motyer's. I strongly encourage you to pick up a copy of *Isaiah By The Day* and be edified! ...Especially, if you're one who has avoided, or been weary of, much of contemporary evangelicalism's often shallow devotional literature...this one will be a breath of fresh air! I recommend it very highly!*The publisher, at no charge, for the purpose of review, provided a copy of the aforementioned title. I was under no obligation to write a favorable review.

This is a great resource to have. After doing a year of study in Isaiah in a year long bible study sometime ago, I am still finding this book an absolute gem. I agree with everything Kevin Fiske said. I did not find the text rigid but found it refreshing instead. This is the first devotional I will read to the end. With most devotionals, the author's comments take precedence and not the text. After a while, I find the devotional irrelevant for the day and eventually drop it off from my reading list. But this devotional is not the same. The text takes pre-eminence and the author skillfully brings out the beauty of Isaiah from his vast knowledge. Isaiah is so relevant for today. In a world filled with chaos, uncertainty, doom and gloom. I find hope in every page. Like me, I believe you will wonder how can a book written thousands of years ago still speaks with such relevance. It is remarkable and amazing. In the past, I have been quite frustrated with Isaiah because I can't seem to see the flow of it. I understand passages but not the flow. After reading this book, I am hooked on Isaiah and will be reading Isaiah more than once this year. Where I once saw a God of anger and judgment as the

main theme, I now see a loving God of Grace and mercy throughout the book --- like a golden thread across the blackness of sin and the consequences thereof. Christ fills the pages of Isaiah. Because it is so good, I have and will buy a few more to give it away.

I am not a pastor or theologian or teacher. Just a stay-at-home mom who tries to faithfully "do devotions" and who recently found the courage to tackle the beautiful words of Isaiah. I am just getting into this book, but I find it very helpful as a supplement to my study, particularly as Brother Motyer helps the reader to understand some of the odd Hebrew phrases and words and also the cultural understanding of the oddities. I love words and I love it when a teacher explains the history of a word and how that influences what the author is trying to convey. The book is broken down into easy chunks for a quick devotion each day. No more than about 3 pages each. The Scripture is Brother Motyer's own translation of the text and then beside it are footnotes of the terms, phrases, etc., he brings out to give understanding. A really fun side effect is getting to know Isaiah as a personality! Again, I am just getting into the book, but I like the layout, Brother Motyer's pastoral style, and I am certainly enjoying getting to know Isaiah. All that aside, I am also feeling the effects of the Scripture itself.

I am always skeptical of daily devotional books. A lot of time they are just a lot of fluff and little on meat. This book will blow you away! The main text is Isaiah itself with a great short paragraph to outline how this chapter fits into the ongoing timeline and state of justice, growth, and restoration of the people of God within the book and life of Isaiah. The whole time I felt the author (whose books are excellent) seems to be leaning over your shoulder teaching you the text, the need for this section, and how God used Isaiah to teach us. I could not recommend a daily devotional higher than this one. Isaiah can be a hard book. The author's brief opening notes and some margin notes to explain older terms is superb. I found myself almost ignoring the explanatory side/margin notes and simply enjoying the author's information and the text of Isaiah. As you read this, Alec Motyer, seems to be guiding you through the heart of God into the life of Isaiah. It is a my daily book. I recommend it highly as a book for your year of reading (although I am finding I am doing about 3 chapters per day...it is that powerful)!

Wonderful book. The author's expertise on Isaiah shines through in his personal translation and supporting notes and biblical cross references. The devotionals center on foundational biblical truths communicated through the prophet. One of the best religious books I've ever read.

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