

the book of
ISAIAH



BY RYAN MALONE • ORIGINAL ARMSTRONG AUDITORIUM CAST RECORDING • SOUNDTRACK LINER NOTES

SINGING CAST (in order of appearance)

Palace Administrator Eliakim Joshua Sloan
Finance Minister Shebna James Brandon
Recorder Joah Conner Brown
Queen Mother Abi..... Laura Turgeon
Queen Mother's Lady 1 Rachel Hyde
Queen Mother's Lady 2 Jamie Hawkins
King Hezekiah..... Mark Jenkins
Mahershalhashbaz (Isaiah's Son) Ezekiel Malone
Shearjashub (Isaiah's Son) Albert Clarke
Hephzibah (Isaiah's Daughter) Amy Flurry
Prophetess (Isaiah's Wife) Paula Malone
Prophet Isaiah Ryan Malone
Assyrian Rabshakeh Shane Granger
King Sennacherib Joel Hilliker

Assyrian Soldiers: Harley Breth, Anthony Chibarirwe, Michael Davis, Christopher Eames, Jordan Ellis, Justin Goodearl, Caleb Heerma, Edwin Trebels, Tyler Verbout, Sean Welsh, Gianni Welsh (solo 2), Dan Westerbaan (solo 1), Justin Yocum

Female Inhabitants of Jerusalem: Deepika Azariah, Calela Brooks, Melissa Barreiro, Carolyn Coats, Olivia Culpepper, Brandi Davis, Becky Falk, Aimee Goulet, Maggie Hilliker, Grace Marquez, Sarah Privratsky, Paula Powell, Panayi Tolis, Danielle Underwood, Ansley Welsh | **Female Levites:** Jessica Brandon, Emily Burns, Rachel Culpepper, Brooke Davis, Corinne Eagle, Lindsay Eagle, Tasha Eagle, Sarah Evans, Valerie Jenkins, Christy McCarty, Heather Morley, Paula Powell, Jordy Rouzer, Katelynn Smedley, Emma Smithies,

Maree Tolis, Jennifer Trebels | **Male Inhabitants of Jerusalem, Levites:** Daniel Arnfield, David Brandon, Dan Burns, Scott Heerma, Zechariah Henderson, Jessie Hester, Steve Hercus, Sam Livingston, Seth Malone, Joseph Short, Reese Zoellner | **Youth Inhabitants of Jerusalem:** Spencer Falk, Noah Hilliker, Luke Hyde, Tara Hyde, Megan Jenkins, Williams Jenkins, Jacquelynn Locher, Skye Malone, Nathaniel Morley, Michal Orleans, Brett Williams

Orchestra: Ryan Malone (keyboards), Parthena Owens (flute), David Price (oboe), Eldon Matlick (horn), Jeff Kidwell (trombone), Roger Owens (percussion), Densi Rushing (violin 1), Sam Formicola (violin 2), Royce McLarry (viola), James Shelley (cello), Michael Geib (acoustic bass)

LIBRETTO

ACT ONE

1. OVERTURE / KING'S TREASURES

Orchestra

2. THE ROD OF GOD'S ANGER

Isa. 8:7-8; 10:5-7, 28-32

(Eliakim) Urgent news we bring.

(Shebna) Tidings for our king

(Joah) Reports of rising waters from the north.

(Shebna) His tide shall overthrow

The lands in which they flow,

(Eliakim) But by the hand of God he is sent forth:

Assyria, it is the rod

Of the anger and fury of Almighty God:

Assyria, it is the staff

Of God's strong indignation and wrath

All nations that stand in its path,

They are driven away like the chaff!

To Aiath they are come,

(Shebna) And passed into Migron,

(Joah) At Michmash their munitions have amassed,

(Eliakim) This mighty entourage,

In Geba, it has lodged.

(Joah) For they have now traversed
the mountain pass.

(Shebna) So Ramah's filled with dread,

Saul's Gibeah has fled,

(Eliakim) And Gallim's daughter
cries out from the fray,

(Joah) Poor Anathoth is heard,

So Laish is deterred,

(Eliakim) And Gebim and Madmenah fly away.

(Shebna) And ready to attack our city,
he in Nob shall stay.

(Joah) There is one place left to take,

(Eliakim) And soon his fist will shake

Against our city and its holy hill.

(Joah) Until toward our place,

This king will turn his face,

And see his greed for Zion soon fulfilled.

(Eliakim) He cannot comprehend

The violence he intends,

For he is just God's tool.

(Shebna) But deep within his heart,

He yearns and thirsts for war,

(All) To fight and cut off nations not a few!

3. A SURE ALLIANCE

Isa. 20; 22:16; 30:2; 58:1

(Shebna)

Assyria's net

Is a serious threat!

And our hosts cannot face it alone.

Without any aid

Our foe will invade,

And our city will be overthrown.

A sure alliance

Is what we need.

A sure alliance

For this I plead.

So from this threat our city can be freed.

Now only one nation

Can stop an invasion,

To keep our great country alive.

We know they can save,

Though we once were their slaves,

In the shadow of Egypt we thrive!

(Eliakim)

Isaiah the prophet,

With a voice like a trumpet,

Warned us against this alliance.

We would carve out our tomb,

For this in God's view

Is an act of great defiance.

How could we forget

The three years that he went

Through our city completely unclothed?

And no shoes on his feet,

As he roamed through the streets,

On our minds this truth was imposed.

How Egypt would soon be exposed.

Despite the temptations

There's no help in nations

Assyria so soon would lay bare,

As our maps are reshaped,

We can see no escape.

If we heed this, then we would beware!

Yes, a sure alliance

Is what we need.

We are agreed.

But only with our God can we succeed.

(Joah)

But why should we fear,

When the temple is here?
God's presence is right in our midst.
God's house will endure,
Thus it keeps us secure.
Do we think we will cease to exist?
So why would we need Egypt to assist?

4. REVIVE THE SPIRIT OF THE HUMBLE

*Isa. 57:15; 66:1-2; 64:6, 8; 45:9; 2:11-12, 14-15;
26:4-5*

(Abi)
Salvation is not found
On tabernacle grounds,
Just because they bear a sacred name.
The hearts of those who tremble
Become God's holy temple,
One man can be the house of His acclaim.

Though in heaven He resides,
In the lowly He abides:
Their humble hearts the places of His rest.
Though He made the hosts on high,
Yet one can catch His eye,
The afflicted, smitten, broken and oppressed.

Revive the spirit of the humble
Revive the spirit of the meek.
So you revive the eyes of the Eternal,
For you revive the spirit that He seeks.

We are all unclean.
What righteousness we glean
Amounts to soiled rags and nothing more.
We are carried off by sin,
As leaves upon the wind

Are withered by the gales on which they soar.

(Abi, Ladies) The proud will fall to woe
When the lofty are brought low
God will level every mountain, hill and tower.
(Lady 2) The vain He will disgrace;
(Lady 1) The haughty He'll abase;
(Abi) So put your trust in His exalted power!

(Lady 2) We are His sons; He is our Father.
(Lady 1) We are the clay; He is the potter.
(Abi) We are all the work of His hands.
(Lady 2) How can the vessel think itself greater—
(Lady 1) Greater than He who is its Creator?
(Abi) Which of us can question His plans?

5. PAY WHAT HE DEMANDS

2 Kings 18:14-16

(Joah)
To fend off an invasion,
So our city ever stands,
Here is his taxation;
These are his demands.

(Hezekiah)
Give the vessels made of silver
That the sanctuary stores,
The gold upon each pillar,
And the gold upon the doors.
For this is what I added
To the beauty of that place,
If it keeps our city planted,
These goods can be replaced.

And many other treasures

I send unto this king
Now we pray this humble gesture
Will be met with high esteem.
To fend off an invasion,
So our city ever stands,
We will yield to his taxation
We will pay what he demands,

6. HISTORY AND PROPHECY

Isa. 30:8; Isa. 41:22

(Baz)
Father can you tell us,
What it is you do?
They say you are a prophet.
Is that why you're a writer too?

(Jashub) Some prophets never write their words,
(Hephzibah) Their preaching will suffice,
(Baz) But Father writes down everything
(Prophetess) What's more, he writes it twice.
He writes it on the tablet, He writes it here again,
(Baz) You write it here, then write it there;
Father, do explain.

(Isaiah)
A prophet has a mission
When he receives a vision,
To state it in the ears of everyone.
When he obtains a message,
Then he proclaims the presage,
And when it happens, then his job is done,

He might write it on a table
So everyone is able
To understand what God will bring to pass.

But then what God has willed,
Hereafter is fulfilled,
And everything he wrote is in the past.

**But the prophecy
God gives to me
Is not confined to history.
Yes, much of this will happen once again.
For there will be
Duality,
In present day reality.
And so I must preserve it with the pen.**

This current information
Holds latter revelation.
So I write it on a table, and in a book.
These historical depictions
Contain their own predictions,
So in both the past and future we can look!

What will be the outcome?
What will soon result?
Just look into the former things.
Its record now consult.
It shows us what shall happen,
Reveals the latter end,
It tells tomorrow's stories,
The future it portends,

Now as you see
This history,
Remember that it's prophecy
A preview and a pattern it portrays.
Not kept for mere
Posterity,
It gives the future clarity—
What's destined to befall the latter days.

Now speaking of the latter days:

There are certain things I write,
That will only happen later;
They have no present equal,
I don't write them on the table,
But only in this book
These words will be conveyed;
Denoted by the phrase:
"In that day"

7. THIS IS THE WAY

Isa. 11:6-7, 9; 29:18-19; 30:19-21; 44:23

(Hephzibah) The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
(Baz) And the leopard with the kid;
(Jashub) The calf, the young lion
and the fatling together
(Jashub/Baz) shall be led by a little child.
(Hephzibah) The cow and the bear shall feed,
and their young ones shall lie down together.
(Hephzibah/Prophetess) And the lion
shall eat straw like the ox.

(Prophetess)
They shall not hurt, nor destroy,
in all my holy mountain;
For the Earth shall be filled
with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

And in that day shall the deaf
hear the words of the Book;
And in that day then the eyes of the blind
shall see out of darkness.
The meek also shall increase their joy in the Lord,

And the poor among men shall rejoice
in the Holy One of Israel.
For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem!

Thou shalt weep no more;
He will be very gracious unto thee.
At the voice of thy cry,
when He shall hear it,
He will answer thee.
Thine eyes shall see thy teachers,
And thine ears shall hear a word
behind thee saying:
"This is the way! Walk ye in it."

Sing, O ye heavens, for the Lord hath done it;
Shout, ye lower parts of the Earth!
Break forth into singing, ye mountains;
O forest and every tree therein.
For the Eternal hath redeemed Jacob,
And glorified Himself in Israel!

8. PARADE OF TRIBUTE

Adapted from Sennacherib's Prism; Isa. 14:16-17

(Assyrian Army)
Sennacherib, our mighty king!
Sennacherib, your praise we sing!
O king of Earth's four quarters
We are your brave supporters,
Sennacherib, your tribute we bring!

Who is the favorite king among the gods?
Our loving shepherd merciful and wise!
A mighty man beyond belief,
Among the princes he is chief,
O may our perfect hero now arise!

His zeal to be the guardian of truth—
His love of justice loudly we report.
(Solo 1) Such are the undisputed facts!
(Solo 2) Who else performs such pious acts?
(Solo 1) Who else lends such generous support?

He graciously gives aid unto his poor,
And destitute who populate his reich.
Yet he's the mighty king by whom
The insolent will be consumed,
With lightning all the wicked he will strike.

(Solo 2) Behold the bounteous tribute
Jerusalem's throne has paid,
(Solo 1) We humbly lay it before you,
(Both) This pageantry on parade.

(Rabshakeh)
He makes the Earth to tremble,
And every kingdom shakes,
He makes the world a wilderness,
Each nation's will he breaks.
No other king is like him,
He is utterly unique,
Give your strength unto him,
Or he will make you weak,
Give him your attention,
For he prepares to speak!

9. UNDEFEATED

Isa. 10:8-14; 14:13

(Sennacherib)
Undefeated.
I'm undefeated.
See what my mighty hand has done,

And how my record stands as undefeated.
I'm undefeated.
So none can stand against my iron will!
I alone possess my shrewdness and my skill!

Every rank we have is grander,
Every guard like a commander,
For our training and our tactics are advanced.
With such uncommon soldiers,
There's no army that is bolder,
For the power of our weapons is enhanced.
Every one of our formations
 from the center to each wing,
Could take a city by itself and give the fatal sting.
All the others are defenseless
Because every soldier senses
That regarding all my princes
Everyone is like a king,
We're undefeated.

We're undefeated.
All other gods are smashed or charred,
All other kings and nobles are defeated.
They are defeated.
Behold I gather eggs from every nest,
And see there's not a one who dares protest!

(Sennacherib, Rabshakeh, Assyrian Army)
We seek Jerusalem
This is our prey!
We seek Jerusalem
It stands in our way!
For its destruction is what we seek;
Jerusalem, we seek to make its glory cease.
Jerusalem will never know the path to peace.

(Sennacherib) Now see how at my leisure

I partake of every treasure
That the cities I defeated have in store.
And I fill our nation's coffers
With the goods they have to offer,
But regardless of their tribute I want more.
Jerusalem eventually will fall into my grip.
(Rabshakeh) This indomitable conqueror will
 take what's rightly his.
(Sennacherib) And we will not stop trying
(Rabshakeh) Until on the mount of Zion
(Both) Our great nation's flag is flying
(Sennacherib) And their Hezekiah is defeated.

(All)
He is defeated.
No tribute that he offers us
Will ever see my global lust defeated.
He is defeated.
Jerusalem is now within my sights!
I'll exalt my throne above Mount Zion's heights!

10. COME TO THE WATERS

*Isa. 33:16; 55:1; 48:21; 49:8, 10-11; 58:11;
41:17-18; 35:1, 6-7; 44:3-4*

(Hephzibah)
Many have gathered outside of these gates,
Preventing Jerusalem's fall.
At the charge of our king,
They have shut off each spring
That serves those outside of this wall.
Infinite wisdom abounds from the throne
For keeping Mount Zion secure.
Though our foes may be nigh,
Their wells will be dry,
But our waters will always be sure!

**Come to the waters God has in store.
Come to the waters, and thirst no more.
Come to the waters that He will give.
Come to the waters.
Freely partake and live.**

Crossing the deserts our ancestors faced,
They never were taken by drought:
Our Lord led His flock
To a plentiful rock,
And from it the waters gushed out.

God has assured us His guidance is near:
Our day of salvation comes soon;
When the way of His mountain
Is marked by His fountains—
The path the Eternal has hewn.

Souls that are thirsty and bones that are dry
Will be watered and washed like a garden,
God guides and delivers
With unending rivers—
The testament of His great pardon.

God will respond when the arid cry out
He will neither forsake nor be cruel,
He gives streams in the hills,
Each valley He fills,
And turns wilderness into a pool.

The lame shall leap—leap like the doe!
The tongue of the dumb will shout!
In the desert streams flow
Till it blooms like the rose,
When the glory of God is poured out!

Just as our God poured out drink for the parched,

And floods which the driest lands drank.
So His Spirit descends
On the children of men;
They will spring up as trees on the bank.

11. ASSYRIAN TAUNT

Isa. 36:4-20

(Rabshakeh)
I, the Rabshakeh, the general
Of Sennacherib the venerable,
Have come here with a message for your king.
Our battle cry has sounded;
We have you all surrounded!
To what alliance can your city cling?

Your army offers no defense,
No treaty gives you confidence,
All forces are exceedingly outmanned.
And if you lean on Egypt's staff—
A piece of wood that's snapped in half—
Its jagged edge will pierce right through your hand.
But if you say you trust your God,
What kind of shield is that facade?
Your king confined your Lord to just one altar.
You have no coalition
To counter our ambition,
Your God is on our side to make you falter!

(Eliakim) In your own tongue please converse,
(Joah) For our learning is diverse.

(Shebna) But speak not in the language
of the Jews.

(Joah) They need not overhear, what's—

(Eliakim) What's meant for kingly ears!

(Rabshakeh) Your pitiful request—HA!—I refuse!

This is our king's intent!
For this cause I have been sent:
To speak to all your people in their tongue
For they'll face intoxication
On their own elimination,
And our king will make them feast
on their own dung.

Jerusalem, your fate
Should make your people quiver,
From Sennacherib the great,
There's no god who can deliver.
The faith your monarch claims,
Do not let this persuade you,
Your conviction brings you shame;
It has already betrayed you.

But make peace with me, and open these gates,
Then you shall see what goodness awaits.
Your own fig tree, your own vine,
Pure water from your well.
Full of grain and wine,
With plenty you will dwell.

Hamath had its gods,
Arphad had its idols,
That could not face these odds:
They're just rocks with sacred titles.
Sepharvaim's groves
Samaria's divinities,
Could not defend their troves,
Nor fend off our hostilities.

Their deities did not defend their land,
So how can yours protect you from my hand?

(Eliakim) To the king!

12. TRAVAIL

Isa. 37:3; 26:17-18; 66:9

(Abi) Like a woman in travail

When the birth draws near

(Lady 1) Before the final moments of strain,

(Abi) Her strength will often fade

Till it disappears,

(Lady 2) When wearied by the pain.

(Abi) So our city starts to faint

In her great distress;

(Lady 1) She cries out in her hour of despair.

(Lady 2) Her trouble,

(Lady 1) her rebuke

(Lady 2) And her weariness

(Abi) Are more than she can bear.

(Abi, Ladies, Women)

So much heaviness that there is...

No strength to bring them forth,

No strength which can deliver

Mothers in travail.

No strength she has within,

No strength that we can give her.

(Abi, Ladies) All her strength has failed.

(Abi) O Eternal she cries out

In her day of gloom

(Lady 1) She wonders when her labor will end.

(Lady 2) Will You bring her to the birth

Just to shut the womb?

(Abi, Ladies) She cannot comprehend.

(Abi Ladies, Women)

Her sweat combines with tears,

Exhaustion brings forth anguish—

How long she travails!

Her pangs have turned her pale;

Her sorrow makes her languish.

All her strength has failed.

All our strength has failed.

ACT TWO

13. HERE AM I

Isa. 6:1-8; 1:18; 50:4; Prov. 25:11

(Isaiah)

The same year that our king Uzziah died,

I saw the Eternal enthroned on high,

A breathtaking vision,

supremely sublime and splendid.

With glorious garments this Being was clothed,

From heaven, the hem of His skirt overflowed

And into the temple these priestly robes descended

Now standing above this magnificent chair,

The bright, shining seraphim ministered there;

A fiery sight under which was

this mercy seat framed.

Of their six wings, over their faces were two,

A pair covered their feet,

and with two wings they flew.

And one to another

these luminous angels exclaimed:

(Isaiah, Levitical Chorus)

Holy, holy, holy

Eternal Lord of Hosts!

Holy, holy, holy,

All Earth is full of His glory!

The voices that praised the Eternal of Hosts,

Shook the doors, and shook their posts.

And filled all the house with

spectacular, sweet-smelling smoke.

I replied, "Woe is me! for I am undone,

I have unclean lips and an impure tongue,

And I've seen the Lord,

so His graciousness I must invoke."

(Isaiah)

Then one of the seraphim flew unto me,

Intending to cleanse my iniquity

He set on my mouth

a coal from the altar that glowed.

A new zeal within me had suddenly surged,

For he said that

all my transgressions were purged,

My sins once as crimson,

were now made as white as the snow.

Then I heard the Eternal enquire from His throne:

(Isaiah, Levitical Chorus)

"Whom shall I send, and for us who shall go?"

(Isaiah)

And I, Isaiah, uttered this eager plea:

"Here am I, send me!

Here am I."

From this calling I replied:

"I will not draw back;

I will volunteer;

I will go where I'm required.

Here am I."

God gave me the tongue

and the ear of the learned,

That I might proclaim an encouraging word,
A word fitly spoken
to those who are weary and faint,
Here am I, to hear your complaint:

Here am I.
From no mission will I hide.
I will sign my name;
I will walk by faith;
I will step with valiant stride,
Here am I.

14. A SURE ALLIANCE (Reprise)

*Isa. 37:4-6; 2:22; 10:24-27; 40:7; 41:10-13;
51:12-13*

(Eliakim) Urgent news we bring.
(Shebna) Tidings from our king,
(Joah) Requesting that you pray on our behalf.
(Shebna) Assyria approached,
(Joah) The Lord has been reproached,
(Eliakim) Against the living God
how they have laughed!

(Joah) So will our God be moved?
(Eliakim) And will He now reprove
The blasphemy their general declares?
(Shebna) Alliances we lack to fend off an attack,
(All) We come to you now asking for your prayers.

(Isaiah)
Be not afraid,
And be not dismayed
By the words the Assyrian spoke.
He blasphemed God's name,
But God brings him to shame,

God will break off our enemy's yoke.

Like the slaughter of Midian,
At the order of Gideon,
God will stir up a scourge for our foe,
And as Egypt was drowned,
When the waters came down,
God will break off our enemy's yoke.

Fear not a man
Who fades like the grass
Whose breath is contained in his nose.
Your oppressor's great fury,
Is no cause for worry,
God will break off our enemy's yoke.

A sure alliance we now possess.
Your sure alliance I now profess:
It is your Messiah! He comes to Zion!
With His courage and His comfort we are blessed.

15. COMFORT MY PEOPLE/BEHOLD YOUR GOD!

*Isa. 35:3-4; 40:1-2, 6, 12-15, 17-18, 22, 25-26, 28;
66:13*

"Comfort my people,"
Says your God.
"Comfort Jerusalem.
Declare with a voice strong but smooth,
As only a mother can soothe.
Their sins are forgiven,
Their warfare has come to an end."

"Strengthen my people,"
Says your God.
"Strengthen the feeble knees.

I gather My flock in My arms,
As only a shepherd can guard,
To water I lead them
And make them to lie down at ease.

Be strong! Fear not!
Behold! Your God!
His right hand is holding you,
Behold He is coming soon.

Behold, your God!
The mighty one!
Behold your God!
Behold He comes!
The path is forged!
The way is paved!
Behold your God!
Behold He comes to save!

He holds oceans in his hand,
Measures heavens with a span,
He calculates the dust of the Earth,
He balances and weighs,
Hills and mountains in his scales,
He knows their every measure, height and girth.

For who can be His guide,
From whom is God advised?
And who can be His cunning counselor?
For who has formed His thoughts?
From whom has God been taught?
And who directs the Spirit of The Lord?

Your Creator has no equal or limit,
His strength has no constraint.
He is never tired or weary,
Never is He faint.

As locusts we appear
To the God whom we revere,
He sits above the circle of the world,
Where the cosmos He extends
Like a curtain without ends,
And like a tent the heavens are unfurled.

Now lift your eyes on high,
Behold the starry skies,
Our God created everything in sight.
Their number He can claim,
He calls them all by name,
He holds them by the greatness of His might!

So the nations are a drop of a bucket,
And dust upon the scale!
They are valued less than nothing.
Their worth of no avail.

16. SPREAD IT BEFORE THE LORD

Isa. 37:10-20; 26:8-11, 13

(Prophetess)
The king received the scroll,
Describing threats so bold,
Designed to make the bravest men afraid.
What parchment did record,
To Heaven these words soared,
He took it to the temple, and he prayed!

He spread it before The Lord.
Every single word and
Every single burden,
How he laid them bare.
He spread it before The Lord.
Every single want,

Every single taunt.
He spread it before The Lord!

(Sennacherib)
Think not the God you serve
Can rescue or preserve
Your city which my hosts have now enclosed.
Jerusalem is trapped
And Zion's strength is sapped,
Your dynasty and throne shall be deposed.

All nations I laid waste,
Their gods I have disgraced—
This fate your God and you will not avoid!
The power of all lands,
Is given to my hands,
Their rulers I have utterly destroyed!
Go spread it before your Lord!

Like Telassar or Gozan, or Rezep, Eden, Haran,
The realms whose gods could not withstand
my sword,
The kings of Hamath and Hena,
Sepharvaim, Arphad and Ivah,
Have perished as will you and your Lord

(Hezekiah)
Lord God of Israel,
'Mid cherubim You dwell,
Where mighty hosts are singing Your great worth!
There You have set Your throne;
And You, O God, alone
Created all in heaven and in Earth.

Eternal, bend Your ear.
That You, O Lord, may hear
The blasphemy the enemy proclaims.

And open now your eyes,
Behold how He defies
The living God he brazenly defames!

I spread it before You, Lord!
Every single word and
Every single burden,
How I laid them bare.
I spread it before You, Lord!
Every single want,
Every single taunt.
I show You every care
O hear my urgent prayer.
I spread it before You, Lord!

All nations they laid waste,
Their gods they have disgraced—
Mere lifeless idols made of stones and trees.
Now save us from his hand—
You're the only God who can—
So all nations worship you upon their knees!

(Isaiah)
If You show the wicked favor,
He never will be just;
He will not behold your glory,
If he lays us in the dust.
Let him behold You, God,
And rightly be ashamed,
Smite him with your zeal,
Consume him with your flame!

We have waited for You, Lord,
For justice we inquire,
To see Your fame remembered,
This is our soul's desire.
Other lords have ruled us,

Other masters than our God,
But only You we mention,
And only You we laud!

We spread it before You, Lord!
Every single phrase,
Every single praise,
Your works beyond compare
Your honor we declare
We spread it before You, Lord!

17. HEALING IS FORGIVENESS

*2 Kings 20:5; 2 Chron. 29:3, 15, 25; 31:1, 20-21;
Isa. 9:6-7; 37:21, 35; 38:1-6; 57:16-18; Isa. 53:5*

(Isaiah)

The sickness now upon you
According to The Lord,
For the future you've neglected,
Now death is your reward.
Your house is not in order,
So find yourself a wife;
You must produce an heir,
Before God ends your life.

For this rule He has established,
His government and peace,
This dynasty of David,
Forever shall increase.
Until Messiah's coming,
The mighty Prince of Peace,
The everlasting Father,
Whose throne shall never cease!

(Hezekiah)

Remember, O Eternal!

Remember now, I pray!
How I have walked before You,
And never turned away.
Remember how we've prospered.
Remember now, my part.
The service I accomplished,
I did with all my heart!

The first year of my reign,
I repaired the temple doors.
I gathered every Levite
to cleanse Your holy courts.
We sacrificed with music,
As David had ordained.
I restored his priestly orders,
Your joy we then regained.

I shattered every idol
I cut down every grove,
I leveled every high place,
That You and I both loathe.
Then healing came upon us,
That only You can give,
For healing is forgiveness,
By this, O Lord, we live!
Forgive me!
And heal me!

(Isaiah)

Before I left your court
My exit was cut short,
For answers came from Heaven, which I heard
The Lord reversed my path,
For He reversed His wrath.
The God of your father David spoke this word:

"I have heard your prayer,

I have seen your tears,
See I add to your life fifteen years."

**For healing is forgiveness
The Lord has borne our grief,
Because of His affliction,
He offers us relief.
His wounds for our transgressions,
Our sins can be repealed,
His stripes for our offenses,
And by them we are healed!**

In three days you go to God's holy place,
With your life restored you will celebrate His grace.

And as regards Jerusalem,
The fervent prayers you did extend
This is what our God did state:
"For David's and My sake,
This holy city I will defend!"

18. I WILL DEFEND THIS CITY

Isa. 37:29, 33-35; 10:12, 16-17

(Isaiah)

**"I will defend this city,
I will defend;
In my enduring pity,
I will descend."
Thus says The Lord, Your God and Friend,
"I will defend this city,
My city I will defend."**

"In this place, on this ground,
Not one soldier shall be found;
Not one bulwark will he breach!

Not one footprint, not one shield,
Not one arrow will he wield,
Not one rampart will he reach!
I send burning to his camp,
For your city is a lamp,
And your light shall be as fires!
And the glory of My name,
Shall confront him like a flame,
So he burns like thorns and briers!"

"By the way that he came,
He will go back home in shame
There I hasten his demise.
For My scourge I will impart,
For the stoutness of his heart.
I will smite his haughty eyes.
I will drive him where he goes,
For My hook is in his nose,
And my bridle in his lips,
Yes, regardless of his pride,
He's the horse on which I ride,
And his power I eclipse!"

19. HE INHABITS ETERNITY

2 Kings 20:9-10; Isa. 57:15; Psa. 90:4

(Prophetess)
God gave the king two choices
To be a wondrous sign,
To prove his prayer was answered,
Through a miracle of time.

(Isaiah)
Behold, your father's palace,
The shadow on its stairs,
Reveals the Earth's rotation;

Time's passage it declares.

(Prophetess)
The shadow could go forward,
Or backward ten degrees,
Whichever he selected,
Would follow God's decrees.

Now forward seemed too easy,
Time always went that way,
(Hezekiah) So change the sun's direction;
Reverse the course of day!
(Prophetess) This wonder God displayed:

**For He inhabits eternity,
In an everlasting place;
He is enthroned amid infinity,
Outside of time and space.**

What are ten degrees one way
Or fifteen years to come
For a Being who existed,
Before time had begun?
He can pause the sun in orbit;
He can make the day stand still;
He can turn the shadow backward
According to His will!

The Ancient of Days, the great I Am
Has no beginning, has no end!

No measure can delay Him,
Or hinder His endeavors
When a lifetime is an instant
And a moment can last forever.
Gone are yesterday's tears,
And every future sorrow;

He lives today as a thousand years,
And fits a thousand years into tomorrow.

20. THE LIVING

Isa. 38:10-20

(Hezekiah)
I said amid my prime,
The middle of my days,
I go before my time,
To the gates of the grave.
My life has been deprived
The remainder of my years.
How could I be revived,
When death so quickly nears?

In the land of the living
I shall not see The Lord.
Denied of all perceiving
I behold my God no more.
Nor can my eyes regard
The others who now rest—
The men whose tombs I join.
All this my prayers expressed.

**The grave cannot praise You;
And death cannot extol You;
Those who descend to the tomb
Cannot hope for Your truth.
But the living shall praise You.
And proclaim the mercy You have shown;
As a father would teach his children,
I will make your faithfulness known!**

My house would be uprooted—
As a shepherd's tent removed.

My life was with the weaver:
Who would cut me from the loom.
From day to night you end me.
I pondered this till dawn
When You entered as a lion
To shatter every bone.

I chirped as cranes and swallows,
I moaned as the dove;
My eyes were soon exhausted
For how long they looked above.
O Lord, in my oppression,
You gave a wondrous sign.
And healing my transgression,
You pledged Your life for mine!

By this, O Lord, men live!
You made my spirit whole!
Recovery You give,
And life unto my soul!
For my good You gave me bitterness,
Then rescued me from death.
You granted me forgiveness,
And paid my fatal debt!

(Hezekiah, Levitical Chorus)
The Lord is my salvation!
Therefore we will sing,
In joyful adoration,
On instruments of strings.
Each day that we are living,
Our voices we will rouse,
To praise The Lord Eternal,
Within His holy house!

21. PASS OVER

Isa. 37:36; 31:1, 3-6, 8-9

(Prophetess)
When Egypt kept God's people slaves,
Our history shows how God did save,
To His blazing wrath this land would feel exposure.
So through encampments of the foe,
The chief of all their strength He smote.
When the angel of death passed over

But all of Israel who obeyed
The voice of God, they safely stayed
Within each guarded house as their enclosure.
The shed blood of a spotless Lamb,
Distinguished them from heathen camps:
And the angel of death passed over.

**Our God will hover,
Like the birds
Whose wings will cover
Those they serve;
He will pass over
He will preserve.**

Now on this night the angel
of the Lord Eternal
Went forth and smote
in the camp of the Assyrian,
One hundred and eighty five thousand men.

By threats our Lord is not dismayed
And guarding, growling unafraid,
Upon His prey our God is like a lion.
Behold your God who now descends,
Jerusalem He now defends,
And fights for His beloved hill, Mount Zion.

Why trust in Egypt to defend?
They are not gods, but only men.
Their horses are not spirit, rather flesh.
Assyria falls by a sword
Not forged by men, but by The Lord.
All treaties fail when God's hand is outstretched.

O turn unto The Lord who speaks these words,
And with your own eyes witness His acclaim!
To those who try to burn us,
This city is God's furnace,
And Zion is His fire and His flame,

22. DEFEATED

Isa. 37:22-25; 10:15; 14:12-16

(Sennacherib)
Hezekiah I extorted,
So his goods would be imported,
And he thought he was submitting to my yoke.
But my demands were not adjusted
Since for more my heart had lusted
So then his beloved city I would choke.
Yes, he paid me all this tribute
so my greed would be assuaged,
But I trapped his city anyway
like birds within a cage.
Yet with force our camp was raided,
Just before my troops invaded;
Just like Lucifer degraded
From the war he tried to wage.

Defeated.
He was defeated.
Like lightning down he went,
To dust was his descent.

Though many high ambitions he had sworn,
He now is chided, ridiculed, and scorned.

How the virgin, Zion's daughter,
Must be laughing at my slaughter,
And Jerusalem now shakes her head at me.
Who truly have I taunted,
Who truly has responded,
Could it be this nation's God I cannot see?
By the multitude of chariots
my strength was set upon
The heights of every mountain
even unto Lebanon.
I have cut down every cedar,
I have conquered every border,
I have dried up every river,
And yet all my strength is gone,

Defeated.
I am defeated.
Was I the one who ruled,
Or just some fleshly tool?
Was I the sharp genius in command?
Or just the sharpened axe within his hand?
Was I the demigod?
Or just the mortal rod?
Was I the mighty power in command?
Or just the simple staff within his hand?

23. WEDDING CELEBRATION

Orchestra

24. WE SEEK JERUSALEM

Isa. 62:1-5, 12; 51:3, 16; 2:2-3; 66:20

(Hephzibah) Our city once called Desolate,
Is now his wedded wife.
(Isaiah) He calls His people "Hephzibah"—
(Hezekiah) Your Lord and King's delight!
(Isaiah) As a bridegroom filled with joy
For the maiden he did choose,
(Prophetess) So your Builder shall rejoice,
For He has married you!

(Hephzibah)
Though we were called Forsaken,
Our God gives us a name
That signifies our radiance,
That represents our fame!
For righteousness and justice,
Our city shall be sought,

(Hephzibah, Hezekiah)
They come to see our brightness,
They come to be taught!

(All)
"We seek Jerusalem,"
Many will say,
"We seek Jerusalem,
Show us the way!
For God's instruction
Is what we seek;
Jerusalem!
We seek your perfect path to peace."

(Hephzibah)
And from the heights
Our city lights

Will stir the hearts of those in flight,

(Hephzibah, Hezekiah)
And show them that their trek is soon complete!

(Hephzibah)
And in their throngs
Their joyous songs
Will speed the place for which they long,

(Hephzibah, Isaiah)
Till melody and gladness fill our streets!

(Isaiah) When our immortality is granted.
(Hezekiah) From this place, the heavens
shall be planted,
(Prophetess, Hephzibah) From New Jerusalem,
God's vast Creation has no end!
(All) From here the universe shall be expanded

We seek New Jerusalem,
For this we pray!
We seek Jerusalem,
This is the way!
God's Holy City is what we seek;
Jerusalem!
We seek your laws,
This is our journey's lofty cause,
Jerusalem!
We seek your perfect path to peace!

25. BEHOLD YOUR GOD! (Finale)

Isa. 40:3-5; 9-11; 35:8, 10; Isa. 25:8

(Abi) The voice is crying out,
The desert hears his shout,

(Ladies) The wilderness can hear
the prophet's call.
(Jashub) A path will be prepared,
(Baz) A highway will be there,
(Isaiah Family) Presenting our Messiah unto all!

(Eliakim) Every valley he will raise,
(Shebna) Every hill he will erase,
(Joah) And level every mountain like a field.
(Eliakim) He will make the crooked straight,
(Joah) And the rocky places plain,
(All Three) Until The Lord's glory is revealed!

(Company)
**The voice of him who brings good tidings,
Bring these hopeful words to Zion:
Shout it from the highest mountain,
Be not afraid!
The voice of him who brings good tidings,**

**Tell Jerusalem this news!
Lift your voice with strength!
Unto the cities of Judah, now say:**

**Behold, your God!
The mighty one!
Behold your God!
Behold He comes!
The path is forged!
The way is paved!
Behold your God!
Behold He comes to save!**

(Hezekiah) Behold your loving God,
He holds a shepherd's rod,
(Hephzibah) And comes to govern
with a mighty hand.
(Prophetess) The arm of God The Lord,
Comes with a rich reward;

(Prophetess, Hephzibah) New labor and work
will He command.
(Hezekiah) Our oppressors He destroys!
(Isaiah) He gives everlasting joys,
(Hephzibah) And from our hearts
He makes all sadness flee!
(Hezekiah) He wipes away all tears,
(Prophetess) All our sorrow disappears,
(All Four) And death is swallowed up in victory!

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