*C&S – Come Y& See - Isaiah*

*NCBC – New Collegeville Commentary on Isaiah*

*NJBC – New Jerome Biblical Commentary*

*SN = Special Notes*

*NAB = New American Bible*

*SK = Chinese Bible*

*CCC = Catholic Catechism*

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| **A** | **Overview of Isaiah 6-12*** Chapter 6: God’s Call and Vision – “I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him …”, “Here I am! Send me” (Is 6:1,8).
* Chapter 7: The Sign of Immanuel – “ a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” (Is 7:14).
* Chapter 8: Defeat, Light in Darkness – “Before the child knows how to call ‘My father’ or ‘My mother’, the wealth of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria will be carried away by the king of Assyria”. “The Lord is bringing up against it the mighty flood waters of the River, the king of Assyria and all his glory” (Is 8:4,7).
* Chapter 9: Israel must be struck down before seeing light – “the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; … for a child has been born for us, … he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace”. “The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this”. (Is 9:1,6,7)
* Chapter 10: Judgment of Assyria, Victory of Israel – “For all this, his anger has not turned away; his hand is stretched out still”. “For though your people Israel were like the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will return” (Is 10:4,22)
* Chapter 11: Messiah and His Kingdom - “In the day, the root of Jesse shall stand as an ensign to the peoples; him shall the nations seek, and his dwellings shall be glorious (Is 11:10).
* Chapter 12: Thanksgiving and Praise – “Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel” (Is 12:6)
 | C&S p 17-20, 25-28 |
| **B** | **Key Teachings*** The Seraphim in Isaiah’s vision recalls the fiery serpents: “seraph” – “Serpent”, “the burning ones” used hot coal to purify Isaiah’s lips. The seraphim is a part of the temple’s liturgical accouterments. Influenced by Christian art and the development of angelology, it has been included as one of the “nine choirs of angels”
* “Wow is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips” – compared to God’s goodness, humans feel even more burdened by their sins.
* “Here I am! Send me” – “here” in the original language doesn’t only mean one’s physical presence but implies a complete offering of the whole person.
* Isaiah receives a strange commission: “Make the mind of this people dull, … so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with ears, and listen with their minds, and turn and be healed”. The mission of Jesus and Paul is the same.

(Ref. [http://elodocuments.blogspot.ca/2011/07/does-jesus-speak-in -parables-because-he.html](http://elodocuments.blogspot.ca/2011/07/does-jesus-speak-in%20-parables-because-he.html))* “The young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel” – Who is this virgin?
* “Immanuel” has also fulfilled the punishment of Israel due to Ahaz’s disobedience.
* Immanuel “will become a sanctuary a stone one strikes against; for both houses of Israel he will become a rock one stumbles over – a trap and a snare for the inhabitants of Jerusalem”. This foretells Israelites’ distrust of God.
* Hope for a great king, Davidic kingdom and a peaceful kingdom.
* From the shoot of Jesse comes the Kingdom of the Messiah; affirming the hope for the Davidic kingdom. Jesus of Nazareth fulfills the “shoot”.
 | Is 6:2, NCBC p 27-28Num 21:6-9Is 6:5, Lk 5:8C&S p 17Is 6:8, C&S p 18Is 6:9-10, C&S p 18NCBC p28Mt 13:13-15Acts 26:23-29Is 7:14, SN 1NCBC p 30Is 8:14-15, Rm 9:331Pet 2:8NCBC p 32Is 8:23b-9:6, Mt 4:15-16, NCBC p 33-34Is 11:1-16, NCBC p 40-41, Mt 2:23, Zech 3:8, 6:12 |
| **C** | **Tasting the Words of God*** “The young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel”
* “For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace”.

   * “There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots”
 | Is 7:14Is 9:6Is 11:1 |

**SPECIAL NOTES**

1. Is 7:14 – A mystery
* “Almah” (HB) means “women who are of marriage age”, “betulah” means virgin? However, women who are of marriage age must be virgins: In Gen 24, Rebekah is an “almah” (v43) as well as a “betulah” (K. McNamara, Mother of the Redeemer, p 15).
* The line “you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus” show the miracle of birth through God’s words: Gen 26:11, Judges 8:7, 24; 1Sam 2:10, Lk 1:31 (Ibid, p 18)
* Not that the queen of Ahaz’s son, Abiyya, cannot be “almah”; however, according to the description of the child in Is 9:5-6 and Jesse’s shoot in Is 11:1-9, this child can only be the Messiah and the virgin is Mary (Ibid, p 20-21)
* Affirmed in NT: Mt 1:23
* Magisterium’s confirmation: “It is significant that later in salvation history the powerful voice of the prophet Isaiah (Is. 7:14, 9:1-6) announced the fulfillment of messianic hope in the birth of Emmanuel, a child destined to reestablish the kingdom of David. Here the Gospel tells us that the child born of Mary is the foretold Emmanuel” (JPII, *General Audience*, Aug 17, 1994). Also, CCC497.