



## THE BIBLE IN VERSE

... by Alvy E. Ford

### ISAIAH

#### CHAPTERS 1 TO 66

##### Chapter 1

Israel stands as a symbol of rot.  
Beasts know their masters, but people do not.  
Nation is like to a body unsound,  
Filthy with sores from the foot to the crown.

##### Chapter 2

Zion shall flow with the Word of the Lord.  
Plowshare and hook from the spear and the sword.  
Man shall be humbled, his haughtiness bowed,  
Idols be crushed, and the sinner be cowed.

##### Chapter 3

God will remove both the stay and the staff,  
Prophet and warrior and healing and laugh.  
Women are haughty and wanton and vain;  
They shall be stripped to their horror and shame.

##### Chapter 4

Seven young women shall cling to one man,  
Seeking their social repugnance to ban.  
Then shall the fruit of the earth be outpoured,  
Also the beautiful branch of the Lord.

##### Chapter 5

Vineyard is planted and rigged with a tower;  
Fruit is deceptive, repulsive and sour.  
This wicked vineyard shall utterly fall;  
So shall the nation rejecting God's call.

##### Chapter 6

Prophet Isaiah now looks on the Lord,  
Fears he has sinned and must suffer the sword.  
Seraphim touches his lips with a coal.  
Prophet is called to accomplish a goal.

##### Chapter 7

Rezin and Pekah toward Judah design.  
Ahaz is stubborn, refusing a sign.  
Promise is sent of a virgin-born son;  
Yet before this shall his judgment be done.

##### Chapter 8

Prophet records now the thing that is done,  
Goes to the prophetess, getting a son.  
People refuse the soft water of God;  
Therefore they sink in the flood of His rod.

##### Chapter 9

People in darkness have seen a great light,  
Greatly dispelling their gloom and their night.  
Now is a son unto Israel born;  
Government good on his shoulders is borne.

##### Chapter 10

King of Assyria serves as a rod,  
Roughly fulfilling the promise of God;  
Then he is boastful, conceited and proud;  
He shall be humbled, defeated and bowed.

### **Chapter 11**

Then shall a root out of Jesse come forth,  
Judging in righteousness, wisdom and worth.  
Then shall the leopard lie down with the kid.  
Then shall the land of destruction be rid.

### **Chapter 12**

Then shall Jehovah be honored at length,  
Source of salvation and singing and strength.  
Then shall the wells of salvation be free,  
Source of the blessing and joy that shall be.

### **Chapter 13**

Burden of Babylon, prophet relates,  
Day of the Lord with its violence and hates.  
Then shall the sun and the moon cease to shine.  
Then shall old Babylon falter and pine.

### **Chapter 14**

God will choose Israel yet as His own.  
Babylon's king shall be cast from his throne.  
How are you, Lucifer, cut to the ground!  
Doers of evil are never renowned.

### **Chapter 15**

Burden of Moab, Isaiah now tells.  
Up from her cities her weeping now swells.  
Even the soldiers of Moab shall cry.  
Hay is all withered and pastures are dry.

### **Chapter 16**

Moab is lofty and haughty and proud;  
Thus shall his weeping and mourning be loud.  
Moab shall pray, but he shall not prevail;  
All of his glory shall utterly fail.

### **Chapter 17**

Now shall Damascus her rendezvous keep.  
She shall be crushed to a ruinous heap.  
Then shall men look to the God of all lands,  
Not to the things they have made with their hands.

### **Chapter 18**

Woe to the land with the shadowing wings.  
Note all you dwellers on earth of these things.  
God will take rest and consider and plan,  
Then will cut down with the stroke of His hand.

### **Chapter 19**

Egypt is caught in a perilous trend.  
Brother will fight against brother and friend.  
Waters will fail, and the rivers will dry.  
Rushes will wither; the fishes will die.

### **Chapter 20**

Naked and barefoot Isaiah now walks;  
Thus he portrays the destruction that stalks.  
Naked and barefoot, afraid and ashamed.  
Egypt shall go to Assyria, chained.

### **Chapter 21**

Treacherous dealer in treachery deals;  
Then as a travailing woman he reels.  
Then of Arabia, terrible plight.  
Burden of Dumah, "Now what of the night?"

### **Chapter 22**

People have looked to the work of their hands,  
Not to the One who creation commands.  
Shebna would hew for himself a great tomb;  
Yet shall one greater abide in his room.

### **Chapter 23**

Burden of Tyre: now howl all you ships;  
Howl, for her glory to infamy slips;  
Yet after seventy years she shall rise,  
Being restored by the Lord of the skies.

### **Chapter 24**

God makes the earth to be empty and bare;  
None for his station in life will He spare.  
Each shall be punished according to worth,  
Host of the high ones and kings of the earth.

### **Chapter 25**

Prophet now pauses to offer his praise.  
God has been good in His manifold ways.  
Yet shall the future be even more grand,  
Resting and feasting prepared by His hand.

### **Chapter 26**

Then shall the people all join in this song.  
We have salvation; our city is strong.  
Haughtiness falls to be bruised in the dust.  
Uprightness stands as the way of the just.

### **Chapter 27**

Then shall the dragon be slain by the Lord.  
Then shall the serpent be taught with His sword.  
Then shall the trumpet, the great one, be blown.  
Then shall the nation be called to His throne.

### **Chapter 28**

Woe to the crown on the head of the drunk;  
He has no judgment; in filth he is sunk.  
God lays in Zion a cornerstone sure,  
Judgment and righteousness, perfect and pure.

### **Chapter 29**

Woe to the city where David was found;  
She shall be crushed and be bowed to the ground.  
She shall be smitten with tempest and quake.  
Dare the thing made chide the one who did make!

### **Chapter 30**

This is a people rebellious toward God;  
Therefore they stand in the path of His rod.  
They'd wanted flight, so they now are to flee,  
Being to blame for the thing that shall be.

### **Chapter 31**

Woe to them looking to Egypt for aid,  
Having their hopes on her chariots stayed,  
Lightly disdainful of Jehovah to call;  
He that is helped and the helper shall fail.

### **Chapter 32**

Rise up, you women now resting at ease.  
Tremble, you women; the harvest shall cease.  
Briars and thorns shall grow up in the land;  
This, till the Spirit is sent at His hand.

### **Chapter 33**

Woe to the spoilers who never were spoiled;  
Traacherous dealers, their work shall be foiled.  
God is the Lawgiver, Juror, and King.  
Righteous may feed and may drink at His spring.

### **Chapter 34**

Come now you nations and peoples to hear;  
God's indignation and fury are near.  
Slaughter and bloodshed shall garner their toll.  
Then shall the heavens be rolled as a scroll.

### **Chapter 35**

Then shall the desert bloom forth as the rose,  
There where the highway of holiness goes.  
Men shall be healthy and happy and gay.  
Sorrow and sighing shall vanish away.

### **Chapter 36**

Rabshakeh comes to Jerusalem's wall,  
Proudly predicting its ultimate fall,  
Rudely defying the God of the Jews,  
Telling the people subjection to choose.

### **Chapter 37**

King Hezekiah beseeches the Lord.  
Prophet Isaiah brings comforting word.  
God will, Himself, be the city's defense.  
Angel of God slays the enemy dense.

### **Chapter 38**

King Hezekiah is sick unto death.  
God gives him fifteen more years to draw breath.  
Sun is then caused to return ten degrees.  
King thanks his Healer, so willing to please.

### **Chapter 39**

Merodach-baladan wishes him health.  
King Hezekiah then shows him his wealth.  
God sends him word of a sorrowful day;  
All of this wealth shall be taken away.

### **Chapter 40**

Comfort you, comfort the people today.  
Voice in the wilderness, paving the way.  
God will come forth with His bounty at length.  
Wait on the Lord and replenish your strength.

### **Chapter 41**

Who raised up man and established his place?  
God the Creator with power and grace.  
Fear not, oh Jacob, for God is your shield;  
Yet shall His judgment on you be revealed.

### **Chapter 42**

Look on the servant elect of the Lord,  
Filled with the Spirit, not bearing the sword;  
Quenching no smoking, and breaking no reed,  
Patiently working, that all may be freed.

### **Chapter 43**

Fear not, oh Jacob, for you are redeemed;  
You in God's sight are most highly esteemed.  
Waters, and rivers, and fires and flame,  
None can destroy the select in His name.

### **Chapter 44**

Man will so foolishly cut down a tree;  
Part of it burn for his comfort and glee;  
Part of it burn for the baking of bread;  
Part of it carve for an image so dead.

### **Chapter 45**

Woe to the man who with Maker will strive,  
Daring to taunt that he stands here alive,  
Questioning God of the work of His Son,  
Ordering God in the things He has done.

### **Chapter 46**

Bel is bowed downward and Nebo is bent,  
Helplessly now to captivity sent.  
God is the Lord, and He only shall stand;  
Yet man will worship the work of his hand.

### **Chapter 47**

Babylon's prospect is sad to relate.  
She shall be stripped to a bitter estate.  
God had entrusted His flock to her care.  
She had been brutal, refusing to spare.

### **Chapter 48**

Hear this, oh Jacob, deceptive and crass;  
God has declared it, then brought it to pass.  
Oh, that this nation had listened and heard;  
Then had His furious wrath been deferred.

### **Chapter 49**

I was ordained ere the day of my birth,  
Called to redeem to the ends of the earth.  
Not just to ransom the wandering Jew,  
But as a light to the Gentile, too.

### **Chapter 50**

Where is the bill of your mother's divorce?  
She for transgression was subject to force.  
Is My hand shortened that I cannot save?  
I with My word stop the sun and the wave.

### **Chapter 51**

Look to the heavens; they vanish away!  
Look to the earth; it is but for a day!  
Look to the Lord; His salvation is sure!  
Look to the Lord, for His judgments are pure!

### **Chapter 52**

Wake up, oh Zion, and put on your strength.  
Now is salvation approaching at length.  
Then shall His servant be wise and discreet.  
Face shall be marred, but His glory complete.

### **Chapter 53**

He for our trespass so rudely was slashed!  
He for our healing so foully was lashed!  
He for our peace took the chastisement rough!  
He for our sin took the rod and the cuff!

### **Chapter 54**

Sing out, you barren; your flock shall be great;  
Lengthen your tie-rope, and strengthen your stake.  
God is your husband; His grace is outpoured;  
This is the lot of the heir of the Lord.

### **Chapter 55**

Why purchase that which can never suffice?  
Come and buy food without money or price.  
Simply incline to the Master your ear.  
Call on the Lord while He yet lingers near.

### **Chapter 56**

Let no man say that the Lord does not care.  
His for all men is a temple of prayer.  
Come now you beasts to devour the prey;  
Watchmen are greedy dogs, lost in their way.

### **Chapter 57**

Righteous are kept from the woe that shall come,  
Resting in peace till the evil be done.  
Wicked are tossed like the turbulent sea;  
Peace to the wicked just never can be.

### **Chapter 58**

People are fasting, but not unto life,  
Rather to wickedness, struggle and strife;  
Yet if they'll turn from their sin and do right,  
God will reward them with blessing and light.

### **Chapter 59**

Hand is not shortened and ear is not dimmed.  
There is no answer because you have sinned.  
Therefore is judgment departed away.  
We are in darkness although it is day.

### **Chapter 60**

Rise up and shine, for your light is now here;  
Gentile and king to your light shall draw near.  
Daughters and sons will be nursed at your side.  
Nations shall bring you the wealth of their pride.

### **Chapter 61**

Spirit of God is upon me to preach,  
Loosen the captive, and bind up the breach,  
Tell the acceptable year of the Lord,  
Also the day of His vengeance and sword.

### **Chapter 62**

Just as the light of a candle is shed,  
Just as a man to his virgin is wed,  
So shall Jerusalem stand as a praise,  
Kept by the Lord for the rest of her days.

### **Chapter 63**

Who is this coming from Edom with strength?  
I that speak righteousness, saving at length!  
Why are your garments so red as with wine?  
Blood have I trodden, for vengeance is Mine!

### **Chapter 64**

Eye has not seen and the ear has not heard,  
All the good things that the Lord has assured.  
We are all perished because of our way.  
You are the potter, and we are the clay.

### **Chapter 65**

Heavens and earth I will newly create.  
There shall no longer be weeping or hate.  
They shall build houses to use and enjoy.  
Nothing shall trouble or hurt or destroy.

### **Chapter 66**

Earth is My footstool and heaven My throne;  
Thus shall I shelter and cherish My own.  
Yet shall the wicked be caught in My mesh,  
Be an abhorring and blot to all flesh.