

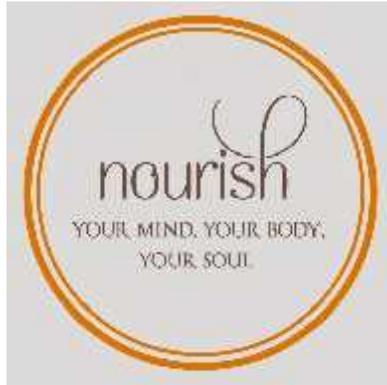


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Visiting with us today?

We want to say "thanks" with a gift of *The Story*

The Story follows the main storyline of the Bible and reads like a novel. There are no verse references, and Scripture segments are seamlessly woven together with transition text into a single grand narrative. To receive your gift copy just fill out a Connect Card which can be found under your seat and give it to the volunteer at the Visitors Center after the Service this morning.



WOMEN'S GATHERING - Brunch, connecting with others and inspiration through a devotional/discussion with Joanna - **DATE CHANGE Sat., Feb 16th**, 10-noon @ Anjila Stimack's home (10601 w79th Pl, Arvada). Put your name and "NOURISH" on a connect card and drop it at the visitor center or put it in the offering. Bring a friend and add her name!

Join Pastor Gary on Sunday Night Feb. 10 at 5 pm downstairs at the church for Pizza, teaching and fellowship. The theme of the evening is "Courageous Manhood."



Mini Series Two – God Pursues His People



Chapter Sixteen

The Beginning of the End (of the Kingdom of Israel)

1-27-2019

Review: God's vision was to come down and be with us in a beautiful garden. The first two people reject God's vision and are escorted from Paradise. Their decision introduces sin into the human race and keeps us from community with God. At this moment God gives a promise and launches a plan to get us back. The rest of the Bible is God's story of how he kept that promise and made it possible for us to enter a loving relationship with him.

God has chosen a nation through whom he will bring the One who will save us and bring us back to God. Until Jesus comes God is busy **preserving** the nation, **revealing** more about Himself to them and **preparing** them and the whole world for the Savior

The nation of Israel _____ in 931 BC. During that time the Northern Kingdom had 19 kings, all of whom practiced Idolatry and evil. God sent several Prophets in to try to warn the people of what would happen if they continued on their respective path but neither the people nor their kings listened.

In 722 BC the king of _____ attacked and defeated King Hoshea of Israel and deported many from the Northern Kingdom to Assyria.

“All this took place because the Israelites had sinned against the LORD their God...They worshiped other gods and followed the practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before them, as well as the practices that the kings of Israel had introduced...” 2 Kings 17:7–9

“So the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them from his presence. Only the tribe of Judah was left, and even Judah did not keep the commands of the LORD their God.” 2 Kings 17:18–20

While King Hoshea was doing his evil in the North, _____ was the godly King of the Southern Kingdom.

A few years after the fall of Israel, Assyria attacked Judah.

Hezekiah does not surrender, but neither does he sharpen his sword to go to battle. He **fights the battle in prayer**.

“...And Hezekiah prayed to the LORD...’LORD our God, deliver us from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you alone, LORD, are God.” 2 Kings 19:14–19

“...the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” James 5:16

“Therefore this is what the LORD says concerning the king of Assyria: ‘He will not enter this city or shoot an arrow here... I will defend this city and save it, for my sake and for the sake of David my servant.’ That night the angel of the LORD went out and put to death 185,000 in the Assyrian camp...So Sennacherib, king of Assyria broke camp and withdrew. He returned to Nineveh and stayed there.” 2 Kings 19:32-36

Hezekiah led the nation for 29 years. When he dies in 699 BC, his idolatrous son Manasseh takes the throne. Isaiah tells him that because of the evil he is doing Judah will be defeated by the Babylonians, carried into exile, but will _____ return again to their land. .

Little by little from this time forward, God speaks through the prophets about the person and mission of the

_____.

700 years before the Messiah will come Isaiah speaks about him to let everyone know what kind of Messiah we should be looking for.

“Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the LORD’s will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.” Isaiah 53:1–11

