

APPENDIX 2

Reading List for Studying Isaiah

There are thousands of books and articles exploring the writings of Isaiah. This list is simply intended to provide a starting point for further reading for those who are interested. Many excellent resources by Latter-day Saints and others are not included here.

Commentaries on Isaiah by Latter-day Saint Authors:

Parry, Donald W., Tina M. Peterson, and Jay A. Parry. *Understanding Isaiah*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1998.

This is one of the most up-to-date and complete commentaries on the writings of Isaiah from a Latter-day Saint perspective. It is our most highly recommended LDS commentary.

Ludlow, Victor L. *Isaiah: Prophet, Seer, and Poet*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1982.

This is another excellent LDS commentary on Isaiah, but it does not benefit from the most recent scholarship on Isaiah, and some of its views may be out of date.

Studies on Isaiah in the Book of Mormon:

Spencer, Joseph. *An Other Testament: On Typology*. Salem, OR: Salt Press, 2012.

Although this book covers a variety of Book of Mormon topics, its primary analysis is about how Nephi, Abinadi, and Jesus use the words of Isaiah in the Book of Mormon.

Ludlow, Victor L. *Unlocking Isaiah in the Book of Mormon*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2003.

Unlike the book below, which is an edited volume by a variety of scholars, this book is written entirely by Victor Ludlow. It individually approaches each section of Isaiah found in the Book of Mormon.

Parry, Donald W., and John W. Welch, eds. *Isaiah in the Book of Mormon*. Provo, UT: Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies (FARMS), 1998.

This book has a variety of contributors, each addressing different areas of the Book of Mormon that contain the writings of Isaiah.

Non-LDS Commentaries

Beyer, Bryan E. *Encountering the Book of Isaiah: A Historical and Theological Survey*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2007.

This book is written from a doctrinally conservative Christian perspective. (For example, it supports the view of only one author of the writings of Isaiah.) It provides a relatively brief overview of the main teachings and concepts from the writings of Isaiah, as well as the most important details from Isaiah's historical context. Each chapter is summarized, and most topics that are difficult to understand are at least briefly discussed, but the book does not provide verse-by-verse commentary.

Oswalt, John N. *The Book of Isaiah: 1–39* and *The Book of Isaiah: 40–66*. 2 vols. The New International Commentary on the Old Testament [NICOT]. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1986 (vol. 1) and 1988 (vol. 2).

This two-volume, verse-by-verse commentary is written from a doctrinally conservative Christian perspective. (For example, it generally supports the view of only one author of the writings of Isaiah.) The commentary is easy to read and provides in-depth commentary on all portions of the writings of Isaiah.

Watts, John D. W. *Isaiah 1–33* and *Isaiah 34–66*. Vols. 24–25 of Word Biblical Commentary [WBC]. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2005.

This widely respected two-volume, verse-by-verse commentary focuses on the unified theological message of Isaiah and its literary composition. It is less doctrinally conservative than the Oswalt commentary. (For example, it generally assumes that the later chapters in Isaiah were written from a later, exilic perspective.) The issue is rarely dealt with, however, since Watts chooses to emphasize the literary nature of all of the writings of Isaiah.

Blenkinsopp, Joseph. *Isaiah 1–39*, *Isaiah 40–55*, and *Isaiah 56–66*. Vols. 19–19b of Anchor Bible Commentary. New York: Doubleday, 2000 (vol. 19), 2002 (vol. 19a), and 2003 (vol. 19b).

This widely respected three-volume, verse-by-verse commentary is also less doctrinally conservative than the Oswalt commentary. (For example, it generally assumes that the later chapters in Isaiah were written from a later, exilic perspective.)

For commentaries with even more extensive, detailed attention to a wide variety of issues, the *International Critical Commentary* (with Isaiah volumes by John Goldingay, published in 2006 and 2014) and *Hermeneia* (with Isaiah volumes by Klaus Baltzer, published in 2001) are excellent choices. Critical commentaries contain a breadth and depth of detail that may be too much for most audiences but is invaluable for those seeking the most intensive discussions available.