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44     Cyrus

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53     The Suffering Servant

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62     The Bride of Christ

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**Isaiah 40 – 66** consists of 27 chapters divided into three main sections of 9 chapters. Each of those nine-chapter sections is divided into three sections of three chapters. Hebrew writing style often places the most important idea in the center. That is evident in each of the nine-chapter sections

**Isaiah 40-48** brings comfort to the Israelites who have experienced exile in Babylon. In the **center chapter, Cyrus**, the future king of Persia, is introduced by name as the one who would bring God's people out of exile.

**Isaiah 49-57** looks farther into the future. There is a Servant who is to come who will rescue God's people from their sins. At the **very center of this nine-chapter section and center of the second half of Isaiah is 53:5, "The punishment that brought us peace was upon him and by his wounds we are healed."** Jesus as our substitute is clearly revealed.

**Isaiah 58-66** gives us a view of life as a result of the Suffering Servant. The **center chapter is Isaiah 62** where the Jerusalem is pictured as the LORD's Bride. "Hephzibah" means "My delight is in her." As you read Isaiah, remember that Jerusalem, also called Zion, is often used as a reference to God's Church. Because the Suffering Servant has come, the LORD finds delight in you!