

Why is Isaiah closely associated with King Hezekiah?

Isaiah knew several kings (*Isa. 1:1*) and interacted with King Ahaz quite a bit (*Isa. 7:1-17*), but he mentioned King Hezekiah (#17) far more than any of the others, including by name 32 times in chapters 36 through 39. These chapters are often referred to as the historical section of the Book. Isaiah encouraged King Hezekiah during the Assyrian siege of Jerusalem. This is also reported in Second Kings chapter 19 and Second Chronicles chapter 32.

Why is Isaiah one of the most balanced people on the list?

Aside from the Lord Jesus (#1), the people on the list are either an Old Testament person or a New Testament one, but not both. Though some Old Testament people like David (#2), Moses (#3), and Abraham (#7) are mentioned quite often in the New Testament, they still are primarily in the Hebrew Bible.

Isaiah is an interesting exception. He was an Old Testament prophet, of course. Yet he is mentioned 42% of the time in the New Testament, including six times in Matthew (*Mat. 3:3, 4:14, 8:17, 12:17, 13:14, 15:7*), four times in John (*John 1:23, 12:38, 39, 41*), and five times in Romans (*Rom. 9:27, 29, 10:16, 20, 15:12*). This contrasts sharply with Daniel (#35) and Jeremiah (#19) who are only cited in the New Testament two and three times.

Why did Philip speak to an Ethiopian about Isaiah chapter 53?

The Ethiopian eunuch was already reading from the chapter when Philip met him (*Acts 8:26-29*). This shows that people at the time were already reading and wondering about the meaning of the chapter. So interest in Isaiah 52:13-53:12 was not limited to the church.

Why does the list continue on beyond Isaiah (#51)?

The list could easily have ended with Benjamin resulting in a top 50 list instead of one with 55 names. Many are interested in Isaiah (#51), Mary (#52) and Adam (#53), however, and these would have been ignored if the list ended with Benjamin.