

## Prophets Give Hope

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 4, Session 17**.

The Jewish people of Judah were forced to settle in Babylon during the Babylonian Exile, where they were severely mistreated.

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A new prophet, who admired Isaiah, began ministering to the exiled Jews. Known as Second Isaiah, he proclaimed to the people that God still loved them and would lead them back to the Promised Land.

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The Gospel writers used the prophecies of the Old Testament. Early Christians believed that the messages of Second Isaiah and other prophets referred to Jesus.

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Psalm 143 is a call to God for strength during difficult times.

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Early Christians, especially the Gospel writers, found the teachings of Second Isaiah to be helpful in understanding Jesus' message. They also believed that Isaiah's messages referred to the coming of Jesus.

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The Gospel of Matthew contains many references to the prophetic books of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah.

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Both the Book of Isaiah and the Gospel of Matthew say that "the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light."

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The Book of Isaiah was written by different writers in three times and places.

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