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ISAIAH

Prophet of Righteousness and Justice

Yoel Bin-Nun & Binyamin Lau

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Many consider Isaiah to be the prophet of world peace, a utopian visionary who transcends the boundaries of political reality and inhabits the realm of ideal cosmic harmony. As the herald of peace, he has become the most influential among the Hebrew prophets; his vision of the End of Days is among the most celebrated of biblical passages: "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift sword against nation, nor shall they learn war any more" (2:4).

Yet there is another dimension to Isaiah – a political thinker who spent decades around the royal palace in Jerusalem, promoting justice and charity, speaking truth to power, struggling to avert disaster. Reading his prophecies in their historical context, **Isaiah: Prophet of Righteousness and Justice** allows us to see beyond the surface. By recapturing the prophet's voice and highlighting the dilemmas faced by the rulers he challenged, this work presents Isaiah's story in all its vitality and drama.

ISAIAH is part of the Maggid Studies in Tanakh series. This series explores the texts, themes, and personalities of the Bible. Each volume, written by a different Bible scholar, features an interdisciplinary approach that incorporates traditional rabbinic interpretations with scholarly literary techniques.

Rabbi Dr. Yoel Bin-Nun is one of the founders of Yeshivat Har Etzion and has played a key role in the revolution in Tanakh study in Israel. In recognition of his contributions, he was awarded the 2019 Education Minister's Award for Lifetime Achievement. His approach to Tanakh sheds new light upon biblical narratives by identifying hints and allusions present in the text and relating the narrative to historical realities, both ancient and modern.

Rabbi Dr. Binyamin Lau heads the 929 Bible Project and is a research fellow at the Israel Democracy Institute. In his written works and lectures, Rabbi Lau presents Jewish historical and philosophical sources in a manner accessible to modern audiences. He is the author of *Jeremiah: The Fate of a Prophet*.

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