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Isaiah Eng Text  
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What is one new thing you learned or idea to which you were exposed?

In this week's reading, Oswalt explained the history of Syria, which explained the political and social climate of the people of Israel. Oswalt explained that in 885-785 BC Assyria was affluent. 745 BC The affluence was brought down and by 740 Syria lost everything except for Damascus. Isaiah started his ministry in 740- 701 BC which was the beginning of the people of Israel experiencing oppression. In the theme section of the reading, Oswalt explained that God had given the people of Israel a promise. The people of Israel were known to be God's people, because of their lineage, but not because of their behavior.

Oswalt explained that in Isaiah chapter one, true repentance is reflected in the treatment of one another. The people of Israel were not treating each other with respect and honor, so therefore, they were not remorseful of their sins. As I reflect on the history that Oswalt shared, I wonder if the sinful nature of the people of Israel occurred while their nation was affluent or after the downfall.

Oswalt history also gave the first couple of books of Isaiah reference. In the introduction, Oswalt explained that many scholars argued that the book was written by many authors. Oswalt concluded that even though the writing styles may change in the last chapter versus the first couple of chapters, the main themes remain the same throughout the whole book. Oswalt explained that two of the themes of the book that went together were justice and hope. Isaiah wrote the book explaining to the people of Israel that they were experiencing the justice nature of God. He also explained that God called them to repent. Isaiah concludes his book by explaining that there is hope for those who truly repent.

