Support Material for Sermon Seminar 2015  
Preaching on First Isaiah  
J. J. M. Roberts

I. Notes on key exegetical, theological, and pastoral insights.
II. Sample sermon outlines
III. Bibliography of Study Resources
   A. General Background Reading
      1. Holladay, William L. *Isaiah: Scroll of a Prophetic Heritage*. Wipf & Stock Pub., 2012. (Amazon). This is an older work, but still one of the best general works on Isaiah that is easy to read and understand that I have ever found.
      2. A number of my earlier essays on Isaiah may be found in my collected essays, Roberts, J. J. M. Roberts, *The Bible and the Ancient Near East*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2002. This has a nice collection of essays on Israelite kingship, the Zion Tradition, prophecy, and on particular passages from Isaiah. Unfortunately this volume is out of print, and one is likely to find it rather expensive on the internet.
      3. There are a number of my other important essays on Isaiah and connected issues available in a variety of sources:


B. Commentaries

1. Wildberger, Hans. Isaiah 1-39: A Continental Commentary. 3 Vols. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1991-2002. This is an English translation of his German Biblischer Kommentar Altes Testament. Vols X/1-3. Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener Verlag, 1972-1982. In my opinion, this is the best, most thorough commentary on Isaiah currently available. It is technical, however, and may tell you far more than you want to know on most topics, and on many points I disagree with Wildberger, though I have learned much from him.
2. There are a number of contemporary English commentaries in the Anchor Bible, New Century Bible Commentary, Word Commentary, and the like, which may be useful at times, but on the whole I find them pretty disappointing.
   e) Hayes, J. H., & Stuart, A. I. (1987). *Isaiah, The Eighth-Century Prophet: His Times and His Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon. This commentary goes its own way. Generally it asks the right questions, though its answers to these questions are often unconvincing. Its assumptions about the historical arrangement of the material in the book are unwarranted.
   f) Watts, John D. W. *Isaiah 1-33*. Revised. WBC 24. Colombia: Thomas Nelson, 2005. On some detailed points and for bibliography Watts’ work may be useful. His literary theory for the organization of the work, however, is strange, and, in my opinion, not at all helpful.

3. My own Hermeneia commentary on Isaiah 1-39, published by Fortress Press, should be available next December, and, of course, it is my favorite.