

Isaiah

“The Evangelical Prophet”

VI. Isaiah’s Divine *Prophecies* of Consolation for Israel (40:1-48:22)

- A. The *Pronouncement* of Judah’s time of Comfort (40:1-11)
- B. The *Proclamation* of the Greatness of God (40:12-31)

C. The *Prophetic Power* of God (41:1-29)

1. *Predicting* a Future Conqueror from the East (41:1-4)

41 “Coastlands, listen to Me in silence, and let the peoples gain new strength;
Let them come forward, then let them *speak*;
Let us come together for *judgment*.

² “Who has aroused one from the east
Whom He calls in *righteousness* to His feet?
He delivers up *nations* before him and subdues *kings*.
He makes them like *dust* with his sword,
as the wind-driven *chaff* with his bow.

³ “He pursues them, passing on in *safety*,
by a *way* he had *not* been traversing with his feet.

⁴ “Who has performed and accomplished *it*,
calling forth the *generations* from the beginning?
‘I, the LORD, am the *first*, and with the *last*. I am He.’”

2. *Producing Fear* and Unity among the Nations (41:5-7)

⁵ The coastlands have seen and are afraid; the ends of the earth tremble;
they have drawn near and have come.

⁶ Each one *helps* his neighbor and says to his brother, “Be strong!”

⁷ So the craftsman encourages the smelter, and he who smooths metal with the hammer encourages him who beats the anvil, saying of the soldering, “It is good”; and he fastens it with nails, so that it will not totter.

3. *Promising* to Uphold His “Servant” Israel (41:8-16)

⁸ “But you, *Israel*, My servant, *Jacob* whom I have chosen,

descendant of Abraham My friend,

⁹ You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth,
and called from its remotest parts and said to you, 'You are My servant,
I have chosen you and not rejected you.

¹⁰ 'Do **not** fear, for I am *with* you;
Do **not** anxiously look about you, for I am your God.

I will **strengthen** you, surely I will **help** you,
Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

¹¹ "Behold, all those who are **angered** at you will be **shamed** and **dishonored**;
those who **contend** with you will be as **nothing** and will **perish**.

¹² "You will **seek** those who **quarrel** with you, but will **not find them**,
those who **war** with you will be as **nothing** and **non-existent**.

¹³ "For I am the LORD your God, who upholds your right hand,
Who says to you, 'Do not fear, I will help you.'

¹⁴ "Do not fear, you **worm** Jacob, you men of Israel;
I will **help** you," declares the LORD,
"and your Redeemer is the **Holy One of Israel**.

¹⁵ "Behold, I have **made** you a new, sharp threshing **sledge** with **double edges**;
You will **thresh** the mountains and **pulverize** them,
and will make the hills like **chaff**.

¹⁶ "You will **winnow** them, and the **wind** will carry them **away**,
and the **storm** will **scatter** them; but you will **rejoice** in the LORD,
you will **glory** in the **Holy One of Israel**.

4. Providing Water and Restoration in the Land of Israel (41:17-20)

¹⁷ "The **afflicted** and **needy** are seeking **water**, but there is **none**,
and their **tongue** is parched with **thirst**;
I, the LORD, will **answer** them **Myself**,
as the **God of Israel** I will not forsake them.

¹⁸ "I will open **rivers** on the bare heights and **springs** in the midst of the valleys;
I will make the wilderness a **pool of water** and the dry land **fountains of water**.

¹⁹ "I will put the **cedar** in the wilderness, the **acacia** and the
myrtle and the **olive tree**; I will place the **juniper** in the desert
together with the **box tree** and the **cypress**,

²⁰ That they may **see** and **recognize**, and **consider** and **gain insight** as well,
that the **hand of the LORD** has done this,
and the **Holy One of Israel** has created it.

5. *Presenting* a **Challenge** to the **Idols** of the Nations (41:21-29)

²¹ “**Present** your **case**,” the **LORD** says.

“Bring forward your **strong arguments**,” the **King of Jacob** says.

²² Let them bring forth and **declare** to us **what** is going to take place;
as for the **former events**, **declare what** they were,
that we may **consider them** and know their **outcome**.
or **announce** to us **what** is coming;

²³ **Declare** the **things** that are going to come **afterward**,
that we may **know** that **you are gods**;
indeed, **do good** or **evil**,
that we may anxiously look about us and **fear together**.

²⁴ Behold, you are of **no account**, and your **work** amounts to **nothing**;
He who **chooses you** (Idols) is an **abomination**...

²⁹ “Behold, **all of them** are **false**;
their **works** are **worthless**,
their **molten images** are **wind** and **emptiness**.”

Personal Application

**Many of God’s Promises to Israel, are also
extended to *us* as Believers**

1. For *we too* are called **servants of God**. (41:8a)

Act as free people, and **do not** use your **freedom** as a **covering for evil**,
but *use it* as **bond-servants of God**. (I Peter 2:16)

2. For *we too* have been **chosen by God**. (41:8b)

So, as those who have been **chosen of God**, **holy** and **beloved**,
put on a **heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience**;
(Colossians 3:12)

3. For *we too* are **descendants of Abraham**, the **friend of God**. (41:8c)

For you are all **sons of God** through **faith** in **Messiah Jesus**...

And if you **belong to Messiah**, then you are **Abraham’s descendants**,
heirs according to **promise**. (Galatians 3:26, 29)

4. For *we too* have been **promised that God will “uphold and strengthen” us**, as **He** would *Israel*. (41:10, 13)

I can do **all things** *through Him* who **strengthens me**. (Philippians 4:13)

But **the Lord stood with me** (Paul) and **strengthened me**, so that *through me* the **proclamation** might be **fully accomplished**, and that all the **Gentiles** might **hear**; and I was **rescued** out of the **lion’s mouth**. (II Timothy 4:17)

5. For *we too* can be assured that **God will judge those** who have been **angry, quarrelsome**, and have made **war against us**. (41:11-12)

For after all it is *only just for God* to **repay** with **affliction** those who **afflict you**, and to **give relief** to you who are **afflicted** and to **us as well** when the **Lord Jesus** will be **revealed** from **heaven...**

dealing out **retribution** to those who **do not know God** and to those who **do not obey** the **gospel** of our **Lord Jesus**. (II Thessalonians 1:6-8)

6. For *we too* have a **Redeemer**, the **Holy One of Israel** (41:14)

...looking for the **blessed hope** and the **appearing** of the **glory** of our **great God** and **Savior, Messiah Jesus**,

who **gave Himself** for us to **redeem us** from every **lawless deed**, and to **purify for Himself** a people for **His own possession**, zealous for **good deeds**. (Titus 2:13-14)

7. For *we too* are **promised that**, in our **affliction**, **God will never forsake us** (41:17)

Make sure that your character is free from the **love of money**, being **content** with what you have; for **He Himself** has said, “I WILL NEVER **DESERT YOU**, NOR WILL I EVER **FORSAKE YOU**,” (Hebrews 13:5)

Closing Comments