

Thursday Evening Bible Study  
**Series: The Book of Isaiah**

Teaching Summary for Week 47

Chapter 41

**Outline of chapter 41**

Verses 1-7	The LORD challenges the nations: Who controls history? Hint: Not your idols!
Verses 8-16	“Do not fear O Israel; I will help you”
Verses 17-20	Miracles in the desert: the Lord will provide water and shade for the needy.
Verses 21-29	The LORD’s case against the “gods”, their idols, and their worshippers.

**Let’s read all of chapter 41 together.**

It is the Lord who speaks throughout this entire chapter.

**Verses 2-4:** Again we have rhetorical questions. Again the question “Who?”

The answer is in 4b:  
I AM THE LORD!  
I AM THE FIRST  
I AM WITH THE LAST  
I AM HE!

**Verses 5-7** describe the futility of idol-making.

**Verses 8-16** are about “I” and “you”. “I” appears 18 times and “you” appears 24 times!

The powerful subject of this chapter:

**I, the LORD, the Holy One of Israel.**

He appears in verses 1,4,8,9,10,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20, 25, 27, and 28! (phew!)

**Verse 8** mentions the servant for the first time in chapters 40-66. There are two different servants in this portion of Isaiah. There is a nation – Israel – and an individual – Christ.

**Verse 10:** DO NOT FEAR; for I ...

- am with you
- am your God
- will strengthen you
- will help you
- will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

**Verse 12** echoes 40:17.

**Verses 11-12** concern Israel's enemies

<b>Those who</b>	<b>Will be</b>
<b>Are angered at you</b>	Shamed and dishonored
<b>Contend with you</b>	Will be as nothing and perish
<b>Quarrel with you</b>	Unable to be found
<b>War with you</b>	As nothing and non-existent

See also 38:17-24; 35:1-10

**Verses 13-16** pick up where verse 10 left off

“Do not fear”

I am the LORD your God

And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel

Who upholds your right hand

I will help you!

See 37:20

**Verses 17-20**

For more passages on the miraculous and water, see 30:35 and 35:1-7. Both passages are speaking about the Messianic Kingdom.

Why will the LORD do these miracles?

So people will:

See ----→ Recognize ----→ Consider ---→ Gain Insight That...

The hand of the LORD has done this.

The Holy One of Israel has created it.

THE LORD versus the Idols

Compare with 40:18-20

<b>Passage</b>	<b>Gentile king</b>	<b>The LORD</b>	<b>The idols</b>
<b>Verses 1-7</b>	Sennacherib	What He HAS accomplished See also Isai 37:26-29	Impotence in the face of the attack See also Isa 21:9-10; 31:7; 36:18-20; 37:11-13, 18-19
<b>Verses 21-29</b>	Cyrus	He predicts what He WILL accomplish	SILENCE Does nothing

The LORD:

<b>Past</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Future</b>
Accomplishments Fulfilled prophecy	Works	Predictions Will be fulfilled

## **Verses 21-29**

The LORD is now speaking directly to the “gods”. But of course they cannot hear, so He actually is speaking to those who chose these idolatrous “gods” to be their gods.

An EXAMINATION for the “gods”:

Tell us the predictions you made that have been fulfilled

Predict the future

Accomplish anything, good or bad

{great big SILENCE } after verse 23

The VERDICT

**Verse 24:** the LORD provides the ruling:

You are NOTHING....

Your work is NOTHING

Your followers an abomination

**Verse 25:** Now I, the LORD, will make MY prediction! , which He will carry out 150 years later.

See also 2Chr 36:11-23; Ezra 1:1-4; Isa 44:38-45:7, 13 ‘ Jer 25:12; 50:1-3

**Verses 26-29:** there is NO one like the LORD!

## Chapter 42

### **Outline of chapter 42**

Verses 1-9	The righteous servant – the Lord Jesus Christ
Verses 10-13	Sing a new song to the LORD
Verses 14-17	The LORD promises to make a way for His wayward people, and destroy the pagan idolaters.
Verses 18-25	The blind servant - Israel

**Let's read all of chapter 42 together.**