

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

Teaching Summary for Week 58

**Isaiah Chapter 43**

We have now completed our study of the four Servant songs in Isaiah 42-53. This evening, we resume our chapter-by-chapter study of the book of Isaiah.

**Let's now read Isaiah chapter 43 . We'll actually begin in Isaiah 42:22 and read all the way through 44:5.**

As chapter 42 ends, the Lord's people, the nation of Israel, are plundered, hidden in prisons, defenseless prey. In other words, they are in exile. They are captives in foreign nations.

What's more, the Lord has done this to them. They sinned against the Lord, disobeying His Law. So He poured out His anger upon them, releasing fierce enemy armies to attack and defeat Israel. This is the background to chapter 43.

Look at the dramatic turn of events that commences in the first verse of chapter 43!

BUT NOW....Do not fear...I have REDEEMED you

This is most unexpected. There are no chapter breaks in the Hebrew text. But there is no doubt that we are in a very different place as chapter 43 begins.

While chapter 42 ends in judgment, chapter 43:1 through 44:5 announce the Lord's redemption of His chosen and beloved people.

This section unfolds in five movements.

**First**, the Lord tells His people that they are precious to Him, and proceeds to reassure them that He will protect them and deliver them from bondage no matter what. **Isaiah 43:1-7.**

**Second**, the Lord conducts a trial, calling on two groups of witnesses: the nation of Israel, and the foreign nations with their pagan "gods". The Lord states His case: He is utterly unique. He is the one and only God and only Savior. He is eternal; sovereign; all-powerful. He promised that He would save His people; He will do it, and the whole world will see His glory. Nothing can stop Him. **Isaiah 43:8-13.**

**Third**, the Lord describes His coming actions to deliver His people out of Babylon. **Isaiah 43:14-21.**

**Fourth**, the Lord tells the nation that they do not deserve to be redeemed. Therefore, He must act in pure grace, for His own sake, for the glory of His own name, fulfilling the promises He made. **Isaiah 43:22-28.**

**Fifth and finally**, the Lord tells the nation that He will pour out His Spirit and His blessings upon their descendants. **Isaiah 44:1-5.**

**Verses 1- 7** form the first unit; verse 1 is the topic sentence

Isa 43:1

But now, thus says the Lord, **your Creator**, O Jacob,

And He who **formed you, O Israel**,

**"Do not fear**, for I **have redeemed you**;

I have called you by name; **you are Mine!**

Verses 1-7 are intimate and personal.

“You/your” are said 19 times in these 7 verses.

“I/my” are said 17 times in these 7 verses.

He created them. He formed them into a nation. Now He redeems them in spite of their sins.

He called them to be His chosen nation out of all the peoples in the world.

“You are Mine. I created you for My glory. You are precious in My sight, and I love you.”

“And I am yours: your God, your Creator, your Savior. I am always with you.”

The Lord’s message is unmistakable: You are loved, comforted, protected, and secure.

Notice that 42:24-25 are written in the past tense. The Lord acted in judgment in the past. On the other hand, 43:2-7 are written in the present and future tenses. The Lord will now act in grace.

Judgment is past, and blessings are coming.

By the way, past, present, and future are all from the point of view that Isaiah adopts in chapters 40-66. As we have seen many times, Isaiah's prophecies usually contain both a near and a far fulfillment.

**Near:** the judgment will be the Babylonian captivity. The blessing will be the return of exiles to Jerusalem.

**Far:** The judgment will be the Tribulation period. The blessing will be the return of Christ and the kingdom He will inaugurate.

Notice **verses 5-6**.

This passage clearly points to the near prophecy of the Lord delivering His people from the hands of the Chaldeans.

See **Isaiah 48:14-20**.

Yet, ultimately it also points to the second coming of Christ, when the Lord will gather Israel from the four corners of the earth.

See **Matthew 24:31**