

Thursday Evening Bible Study
Series: The Book of Isaiah

Teaching Summary for Week 60

Isaiah Chapter 43

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**. The other witnesses do not give any testimony. Therefore, the LORD provides all of the evidence. Then the verdict is announced. **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, to fulfill 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**. This will occur in the end times.

Verses 1- 7 form the first unit. We covered the first 6 verses last week.

We pick things up tonight by finishing up verses 5-6 and then concentrating on verse 7.

Verses 1-7 are intimate and personal. The Lord's message is unmistakable: You are loved, comforted, protected, and secure.

The Lord acted in judgment in the past. 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 it also points, ultimately, to the second coming of Christ, when the Lord will gather Israel from the four corners of the earth. See **Deuteronomy 30:1-10; Isaiah 11:12; Matthew 24:31**

Isa 43:7

*7 Everyone who is called by My name,
And whom I have created for My glory,
Whom I have formed, even whom I have made."*

What the Lord says to Israel in **verse 7** He can also say **to us as the church**, the body of Christ.

In fact, He has done these things for us in a **much greater** way than He did even for Israel.

CALLED: Saints! *Romans 1:7; Colossians 3:15; 1 Peter 5:10,11*

CREATED: The NEW creation! *1 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:10; Ephesians 4:24*

FORMED: The Body of Christ! *1 Corinthians 12:18,27; Ephesians 2:20-22; Colossians 2:6-7*

MADE: righteous, complete, heirs! *Romans 5:19; Colossians 2:10-13; Titus 3:7*

Rom 8:28-30

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; 30 and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

Verses 8-13 form the second unit.

The Lord conducts **a trial**. We saw this earlier, in **Isaiah 41:21-29**.

He calls two groups of witnesses: the nation of Israel, and the foreign nations with their pagan “gods”. But these witnesses cannot provide any of their own testimony. Israel is blind and deaf, while the nations and their gods are speechless when the Lord questions them.

So the Lord provides all of the evidence. He states His case, and then He proves His case.

In **verse 8**, the first witness is introduced. It is **the nation of Israel**. The people of Israel are supposed to be the witnesses for the Lord. But who ever heard of a witness who was blind and deaf?

See **Deuteronomy 4:34-36**. They were supposed to testify about the marvels they had seen and heard when the Lord brought the nation out of the land of Egypt. But now they see nothing and hear nothing.

In **verse 9**, the second group of witnesses take the stand. It is **the pagan nations and their false gods**. The Lord asks them a question they cannot answer. They have no witnesses who can testify that any other god has done what the Lord has done. All they can do is listen to the Lord’s case and agree!

In **verses 10-13**, the Lord turns back to Israel and calls Israel to the stand as His witness. Not to tell the truth. But so they can know the truth, believe it, and understand it. The Lord states His own case in detail. He ends with a rhetorical question: “I act and who can reverse it?”

There can only be one response: No one can!