

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

Teaching Summary for Week 63

**Isaiah Chapter 43:22-44:23**

This section of Isaiah treats Israel's sin and redemption.

Israel has sunk in sin and is taken into captivity.

But the Lord has provided a double cure: the time of captivity would end, and their sins would be forgiven.

Isaiah develops these two tracks in tandem here in Isaiah 43 and 44.

As we have seen, they captivity will end in liberation (Isaiah 42:18-43:21).

Now, we will see that sin will be dealt with by spiritual redemption (Isaiah 43:22-44:23).

Isaiah addresses four topics under this second heading of **sin dealt with by redemption**.

He begins by describing the sin of the nation. **Isaiah 43:22-24**.

Next, He describes how the Lord will meet their need. **Isaiah 43:25-44:5**.

Then he will contrast the Lord, their Redeemer, the only God with idols. **Isaiah 44:6-20**.  
Finally, he will describe redemption from sin. **Isaiah 44:21-23**.

The Lord was called Redeemer back in chapter 43. See **43:1,14**.

Now He is called the Redeemed again in **44:6**.

This title “Redeemer” links the coming passages with the preceding passages.

It means the Next-of-Kin who has the right to come alongside his relative and take upon himself the debt or burden of the other, whatever that burden may entail.

The Lord redeems His exiled people from Babylon (**43:14**) and He redeems sinners from sin (**44:21-22**).

This is where we pick things up this evening.

**Verses 22-24** diagnose the problem. On the surface, their sin is failing to engage in the sacrifices. (23 ab, 24ab).

They did perform the rituals, but it was mechanical - dead religion. Their heart was not in it.

See **Isaiah 1:10-15**.

The Lord did not burden them with the offerings, but they burdened Him with their sins (23c, 24c)

Ritual for its own sake, without spiritual meaning, is a burden to the Lord. Nor does it bring blessing to the people. (1:15),

They were enslaving themselves again, and desired to make the Lord their slave as well!

Before they were exiled to Babylon, they abused the sacrificial system that the Lord intended for to cover their sins and enjoy close fellowship with His people. They made a mockery of all that.

Verses **43:25-44:5** describe the **remedy** that the Lord provides for their sin.

In **verse 25**, the Lord breaks in to announce His gracious plan for Israel. “I am the One who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake”. He acts purely on the basis of His grace and love.

See also **Psalm 51:1, Jeremiah 31:34, and Mich 7:18-19**.

In verses **26 – 27**, the Lord completes His indictment of the present nation. His chief complaint is directed at the leaders of the people, the false prophets and the wicked priests.

Their case is hopeless.

Their first father is Jacob, the father of the 12 tribes.

In **verse 28**, he pronounces the sentence: they will go into exile in Babylon for 70 years.

The rebellion centered on their neglect of the Law concerning worship in the Temple. They went through the motions, but they were dead inside: no joy, no authentic worship.

Therefore, the Lord will “pollute the princes of the sanctuary”. These are the Levites and priests who were responsible to perform the sacrifices and lead the people in worship.

Finally, He will discipline His people. He will banish them to Babylon and make them the object of revilement.

As chapter 44 begins, it seems that the blessing of forgiveness in 43:25 is superseded by the curse of banishment in 43:26-28.

But the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Look at Romans 11:28-36.

Isaiah now returns to the far prophecy of the end times.

The Lord tells the nation that He will pour out **His Spirit** and His blessings upon their descendants.. This will occur in the end times when the Messiah redeems the remnant of Israel. They will never again rebel against Him.