

The Book of Isaiah

Trusting God More #22

Some of the outlines are taken from Melissa Spoelstra's book, *Isaiah: Striving Less and Trusting More*.

Review of Isaiah Chapters 40 & 41. What do you remember?

Memory Verse: Isaiah 40:1 KJV, Comfort ye, Comfort ye my people, saith the Lord."

What are you doing with chapter 41 also known as the "I Will" chapter?

Discussion: What do you prefer, hearing first the **good news** or the **bad news**?

The bad news was chapters 1-39. Israel was accused of abandoning God and was promised judgment. Now, they are in exile (as He promised). That's bad news. The good news is that despite their circumstances there was some good news. His comfort comes via the good news of a servant who would deal with their sin problem as well as ours.

Chapter 42 (The Servant)

The question is who is this servant? Some believe it is Israel itself. Others believe the servant is Jesus. We shall see!

This is part of four songs which are called servant songs. The four songs cover the life of Jesus, the work of Jesus, the sufferings of Jesus and finally, the glory of Jesus. Yes, and this is in the Old Testament foreshadowing the Messiah.

1. Isaiah 42:1-4
2. Isaiah 49:1-6
3. Isaiah 50:4-11
4. Isaiah 52:13-53:12

We will learn what the servant is like and what He will do.

Read Matthew 12:17-21.

Mark emphasizes Jesus as a servant. Jesus identified Himself as a Servant. Read Philippians 2:7. Again, the emphasis is on Jesus as a servant. In this chapter, we will consider a broad outline such as this one:

- Jesus the servant of God verses 1-7
- The denunciation of idols 8-17
- The other servant 18-25

Read 42:1-4

Notice the word behold in verse 1. Behold is a call to attention and fixing our eyes on Jesus. "Behold my servant whom I uphold."

The call is to all of God's people- the people of Israel to set their focus upon His servant. The NKJV capitalizes the word Servant because the context clearly points to Jesus.

How will looking unto Jesus keep us from all modern forms of idolatry?

Matthew 12:16-21 helps us to understand the prophecy was fulfilled in Jesus. Please be reminded the Israelites were in exile; yet they are told to focus on Jesus.

Discussion: How does focusing on Jesus during our trials help us?

Jesus described Himself as a servant. Read Matthew 20:25-28, Matthew 23:11, Mark 9:35, Mark 10:43-45 and Acts 3:13 and 3:26.

Notice Jesus is not just a servant. He is The Servant that everyone should behold.

What do we see when we see Jesus as a servant?

What does He want us to see? Relate this to Mark 10:43-45?

What does it mean when we hear Jesus is OUR servant?

Jesus serves us. He is our servant. He is our example of a servant.

Jesus as God's servant show us how the Father felt about His Son's position.

The Bible says in verse 1- my soul delights in you! God delights in His Son as a servant.

Discuss what the Servant will and will NOT do.

The broken or bruised reed is another reference of Jesus! This represents the gentle character of Jesus.

Jesus is the light in verse 6. Jesus is the light to the Gentiles. Jesus is the root of Jesse. The prophets misunderstood this. They did not understand the predictions of Jesus. They did not understand the full meaning of this.

Read 7 & 8. Jesus came to open the eyes of the prisoners and to bring light to those in darkness. The next section turns to Israel.

Read and discuss verse 8. What do you think God meant by "neither my praise to graven images?"

Discuss the "former things" in verse 9. In verse 10, we hear "isles." Those refers to the continents where the Gentiles live. God cares about the Gentiles.

What does all you have learned today say to you about the Servant?