

# The Book of Isaiah

## Trusting God More #26

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

### Review:

Second Memory Verse: Isaiah 45:5, “I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me.”

Opening Discussion: We are going to fast forward for a moment to chapter 47:12. Read it. God urged Babylon to turn to her witchcraft, which she trusted for her way out. This is another satire which God uses. In our previous lesson, God invited them to turn to their idols for assistance.

1. What is God trying to establish?
2. What have you turned to OTHER than God? What would He invite you to turn towards? How does it make God feel? How does that make you feel?

Please note: We are **beginning** where we left off on last week. I have pasted the notes from chapter 47 here. *This section is from the sheet from last week. We can't skip over it.*

**Chapter 47** opens with the fourth prediction of the doom of Babylon. We saw the previous predictions in Isaiah chapters 13, 14, and 21. The Babylon of the past was under rubble and judgement. Read Revelation 18:2.

What Babylonian tendencies do we see in the world today in the political realm?

Read verse 1. God commands Babylon to “come down.” He speaks almost as if he is referring to a dog that He is commanding to be obedient. Babylon is referred to as a virgin because she has not been captured by the army.

Read verse 2-5 and hear the indescribable humiliation Babylon will face.

Why would God take such awful vengeance on Babylon? Please understand God is not vindictive but does vindicate His holiness and righteousness. Israel is in captivity, but they must look to God for their deliverance. God has not forsaken them.

“The lady of kingdoms” (v. 5) is the pet name of Babylon. Her fall is inevitable because God has spoken.

Discussion: What do you think about the fall of Babylon?

Verse 6 tells us. God delivered His people into the hands of Babylon because they had sinned against Him. He was judging His own people. This is the message found in the book of Habakkuk.

Do you think there will be a fall today for countries/leaders/idolaters that have Babylonian tendencies? Look at verse 9. The suddenness of the fall of Babylon is recorded in Daniel 5. Two things would happen: loss of children and widowhood.

## **Chapter 48**

This chapter brings to us the conclusion of the first part of a major division of faith. It is extremely important for you to understand there is a distinct difference between the apostate mass of Israel and the remnant of faith. You will notice this when we get to verse 12.

In verse 1, the whole house of Israel is discussed. This goes back to the chosen line through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The apostate nation was given a final chance to turn back to God. They spoke of God as if they knew Him; however, their actions said otherwise.

Read verse 2. They boasted of being citizens of Jerusalem when they really were not. They were taking one way and living another way. What is this kind of attitude called? How does this look in 2024?

Paul addressed this in Romans 9:6. Why is this important to note? Ishmael was Abraham's son although he was not in the line of promise?

Read verse 4. Does it sound like God is piling up evidence on them in order to win their hearts? Does God know our hearts? Does He bless us in spite of our hearts?

In verse 5, God told them of their future less they given an idol credit for what happened to them.

What does this say to us about God? He has a future for us despite our contrary ways.

What happened in verse 8? Can you imagine how this made God feel? They refused to be convinced and turn to God. What a picture of stubbornness?

What does this look like today? Are we refusing to be convinced?

God found a reason to show them mercy and grace. Look at God!!!!

Chapters 49-52 brings us to the heart of the book of Isaiah and to the very heart of God which is found in chapter 53. The forthcoming chapters will introduce Jesus as the Savior of the world.