

due November 19, 2017

Comfort Ye, My People (40:1)!
Isaiah 40-41 (take 2)

Theme of Isaiah: Trust in the Holy One of Israel alone, for He only is salvation.

Isaiah Outline

A. Words of **Judgment** 1-39

1. Judgments of Israel and Judah (1-12)
2. Judgment of Heathen Nations (13-23)
3. God's Purpose in Judgment (24-35)

B. **Illustration** of theme of Isaiah—Hezekiah (36-39)

C. Words of **Comfort** 40-66

1. The future Release (40-48)
2. The future Redeemer (49-57)
3. The future Kingdom (58-66)

Monday (November 13)—prayerfully read and enjoy Isaiah 40:1-10.

Please move through all the questions fairly quickly, noting points to discuss more thoroughly afterwards (please let choir members go by 10:10), thanks.

1. To whom do you suppose God is speaking in 40:1-2?! _____
2. Given your knowledge of the Bible and considering the answer to the first question, what might be a double reference for “the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness” in 40:3? In other words, to what two people might “the voice” be referring? _____
3. What shall be seen by all flesh, and why do we know that this will be so (40:5)? _____
- *4. What two things are contrasted as to their longevity (40:6-8)? _____
5. Who is coming to rule, and what is he coming to rule (40:9-10)? _____
- *6. Take a thought with you for the day! _____

Tuesday (November 14)—prayerfully read Isaiah 40:11-20, and then answer the questions.

1. To what is the LORD God who shall come (verse 10) compared in verse 11? _____
2. What quality (or qualities) of God is (are) being presented in 40:12? _____
3. What quality (or qualities) of God is (are) being presented in 40:13-14? _____
4. What are very small before Him (40:15-17)? _____
5. What silly thing do men do in their attempt to get hold of God (40:18-20)? _____
6. What can you apply to your life from this section (and take it with you for the day)? _____

Wednesday (November 15)—prayerfully read Isaiah 40:21-31, and answer the following.

1. What did Isaiah write in 40:21-22 which indicated that the earth is a sphere even before the time when scientists thought it was flat (40:21-22)? _____

(bonus) What did the LORD stretch out as a curtain and tent for the earth's inhabitants to dwell in (40:22)? _____
2. Who shall the whirlwind take away as stubble (40:23-24)? _____

(grammar note) “In formal writing use *whom* for all objects. ... Informal English tends to avoid the use of the objective *whom* unless it comes immediately after the preposition” (*Harbrace* 6th edition, page 50).
3. What is the implied answer to the question in 40:25? _____
4. What quality of God is indicated in 40:26-27? _____
- *5. What is told us about God in 40:28-31, and what does He do with this? _____

(bonus) Whose strength does the LORD renew (verse 31)? _____

6. Meditate today at least a little on 40:31 (and perhaps on verses 26-27), and take your meditations with you for the day!

Thursday (November 16)—**prayerfully** read Isaiah 41:1-10, and answer the following.

1. The LORD calls the people (and islands) to come near for judgment; what two things come before the people are to speak (41:1)? _____
2. Who raised up the righteous man to rule (41:2-4)? _____
3. What did the ones who were afraid, and came near, do for each other (41:5-7)? _____
4. How was Israel identified in 41:8? _____

(bonus) Who is identified as the LORD's friend? _____

5. Where did the LORD find Israel (apparently to regather them back to their Promised Land) (41:9)? _____
6. Meditate on 41:10, and take it with you for the day (or another verse).

Friday (November 17)—**prayerfully** read Isaiah 41:11-20, and answer the following.

1. What will happen to those who had been angry ("incensed") against Israel (41:11-12)? _____
2. What does the LORD repeat, that He says He will do for them (the Israelites) (41:13-14)? _____

(bonus) How else does the LORD ("thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel") refer to the men of Israel (verse 14)? _____

3. What do you suppose the LORD means in verse 16 when He says to Israel, "the wind shall carry them away"? _____

(bonus) In what (or who) will the Israelites rejoice? _____

4. What specific need will the LORD address in this future day (41:17-18)? _____
5. How many kinds of trees will the LORD plant in the (former) wilderness (41:19)? _____
6. What can you apply to your life from this section (and take with you for the day, incorporating it)? Verse 20 gives much good and practical thought!

Saturday (November 18)—**prayerfully** read Isaiah 41:21-29, and answer the following.

1. There seems to be a change in the message beginning in 41:21—Isaiah had been speaking encouraging words of restoration to Israel, and now he returns to challenging those who think differently, against what he is presenting. He tells them to put forth their arguments against what he is saying ("Produce your cause, bring forth your strong reasons") (verse 21). What specifically does he challenge them to reveal in verses 22-23? _____
2. What does Isaiah tell them their thinking is worth (41:24)? _____
3. What did Isaiah tell them was still ahead of them (41:25)? _____
4. How did Isaiah answer his own question "Who has declared from the beginning, that we may know?" (41:26)? _____
5. What did he (Isaiah and/or the LORD presumably) not find among them (presumably among the Israelites) (41:28-29)? _____
6. Given what is presented in this section, what should we pray stays upon us? Another way to ask this is, "What should we pray we will have so that we listen to God's words and not man's? (Take this thought with you for the day!) _____

Sunday (November 19)—**prayerfully** review Isaiah 40-41.