

## ISAIAH – Chapter 44

Vs. 1-5 Listen (Isa. 46:3)...do not fear. Isa. 41:10, 14; 43:5; 44:8; 54:4

- 1) Jacob my servant – that which God will transform him into being in contrast to what he has been throughout his existence. Isa. 30:1-2  
Ezk. 37:21-28; 39:21-29
- 2) Israel, whom I have chosen. Isa. 41:8-9; Amos 3:2; Deut. 7:6

On the truth of God choosing: 1 John 4:10

Deut. 18:1-2, 5; 21:5 – Levites

1 Sam 10:20-24 (16:3-13) 1 Chron. 28:4 – David

1 Kings 14:21 – Jerusalem

1 Chron. 28:5 – Solomon

Ps. 106:23 – Moses

Ps. 132:13 – Zion

Ps 135:4 – Jacob/Israel, Isa. 43:20 – my chosen people.

Isa. 42:1 – my Servant/Christ (Mt. 12:15-18) Lk. 9:35

John 13:18 – Apostles. Acts 1:2; John 15:16; 17:6 with John 6:38-40

Acts 1:24 – 12<sup>th</sup> Apostle

Acts 9:10-15

Acts 10:39-41 – witnesses of the resurrected Christ.

Rom 11:7 – believing Israelites in the O.T. era. Rom. 9:6-29

Col. 3:12 – all N.T. believers. 2 Thes. 2:13-14; 2 Tim 2:10; Titus 1:1

1 Pet. 1:1-2; 2:9, 5:13

1 Tim. 5:21 – angels that did not fall.

Rev. 17:14 – tribulation saints.

NOTE: Another term that would describe the fallen angels and all of lost humanity / non-chosen.

- 3) Jeshurun, “the upright one.” Deut. 32:15; 33:5, 26  
(similar to calling Gideon, “O valiant warrior.” Judges 6:12)

Thus says the Lord:

- 1) Who made you. 1 Cor. 8:5-6  
Rom. 9:21 – God has a life plan and purpose for every thing found “under the sun,” which also leads to the concept – Rom 11:33-36.
- 2) Formed you from the womb – Isa. 44:24
- 3) Who will help you – (because He sees – Job 31:4)

Thus says the Lord:

1) I will pour out water:

on the thirsty land.

on the dry ground.

taken literally, Isa. 41:17 will become Joel 3:18.

2) I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring – Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:14-36;  
Jer. 31:31-34

NOTE: Ezk. 37:1-14; 39:25-29; Isa. 32:15-18 (until...then); 59:21

3) I will pour out my blessings on your descendents (Jews):  
[just as He does on all N.T. believers – Eph. 1:3]

a) they will spring up...

b) they will say...

c) they will call...

d) they will write...

e) they will name...

Ezk. 34:11-31

Vs. 6(a) The God of Israel is the only God and, therefore, idol worship makes no sense!

Who is like the God of Israel?

1) The King – Isa. 43:15; Rev. 19:16 (Rev. 17:14)

2) His Redeemer – Isa. 41:14; 43:14; 44:6, 24; 47:4; 48:17; 49:7, 26;  
Isa 54:5, 8; 59:20; 60:16; 63:16 (Jer. 50:34)

Your redeemer is the Holy one of Israel.

The Creator of Israel.

Your (Israel's) King.

The First and the Last.

Only God.

The one who formed you from the womb.

The Lord of Hosts.

The one who teaches you to profit.

The one who leads you in the way you should go.

The despised One.

The One abhorred by the nation.

Who is faithful.

Who has chosen you (Israel)  
The mighty one of Jacob.  
Called the God of all the earth.  
The one who will come to Zion.  
From of old, is Your name.

Vs. 6(b) The King of Israel and His redeemer is God; the only one!

He is the First and the Last – Rev. 22:13; Rev. 1:8, 17-18

Vs. 7 Who is like Me...Is there any God besides Me...I know of none. I am the only one who can tell what is going to take place in the future (I am the one who planned it all). Isa. 43:11; 46:9; 41:22-23

God's people have no reason to fear. Both His people and the future belong to God. Is there any doubt that He is able to "keep that which has been entrusted to Him" or that He has no idea what the future holds?

Israel is God's witness to the truth of His sovereignty for unto Israel was sent the prophets and unto Israel was God's prophetic Word entrusted, a Word that contains hundreds of "predictions" about the future.

Israel's God is a "Rock." Isa. 17:10; 26:4; 30:29; Mt. 7:24-25; 16:13-19

Vs 8 God's people should not be afraid because of the God that they belong to! Their security rests in Him!! Isa 41:10,14; 43:5

His uniqueness has been clearly and repeatedly revealed to them,  
Prophecy being the "indisputable" proof of the kind of God He is...  
Isa 48:3; 41:21-24

You are my witnesses...Isa 43:10,12; Acts 1:6-8; Jn 17:18-20; Heb 2:1-3;  
Rom 10:8-15

Not only of My uniqueness, but also of my strength and stability –  
Rock...Mt 7:24-27; 16:13-19; Rom 9:33; 10:11; Isa 26:4

Vs 9-17 How an Idol Comes To Be

Idol worship is foolish because:

- 1) They are the product of human work – craft – craftsmanship; mere men making god – vs. 11
- 2) They don't work – vs. 10...No profit comes from them.
- 3) The god-makers get hungry and thirsty and become weary while they build the god – vs. 12 (They must be refreshed from that which the real God has created if they are to continue.)
- 4) The god-makers must draw out their god so they have a pattern with which they can make him.

What do they draw if they are new at the business?  
The form of a man – vs. 13 (if they have been in the business long enough,  
their god ends up looking like a bug Rom 1:21-23)

Note: Today a person knows what it will take to make them happy and  
secure, but once they have obtained it, and lost whatever happiness or  
security they thought they had, they begin again to build the new “thing”  
which will surely bring it!

- 5) As a god-maker, he needs the real God to grow the tree so he will have  
what he needs to make his all sufficient god – vs. 14
- 6) The foundation, which the god-maker plans to use for his god, actually has  
a dual relationship with him.  
With part he:
  - a. burns it to make himself warm
  - b. burns it to cook his food upon

With the other part he:

- a. makes it a graven image and falls down  
before it:  
worships it  
prays to it  
trusts in it to deliver him.

(Not too bright, this god-maker, when you think about what he does – why  
doesn't he think about what he is doing? vs. 15-17)

Vs 18-19 Why don't they understand? Eph 2:1-2; 2 Cor 3:14-16

Vs 20 The god who was worshipped could just as easily been the wood for the fire. He  
who worships an idol, worships ashes!

The one who worships an idol is deceived, his heart having been turned aside.  
That idol-worshipper cannot deliver himself.  
He also cannot reckon with the truth that a “lie” is in his hand.

Vs 21 Remember these things – stay in touch with reality – don't drift!  
You are my servant – in contrast with the idol worshippers  
(All men are not the same – Fatherhood of God, brotherhood of man – Isa 44:1-3)

I formed you to be what you have turned out to be.  
You are not an accident or the product of chance.  
Eph 1:4-12; Jn 15:16; 1 Pet 1:3-7

I formed you and wiped out your transgressions – I redeemed you.  
You will not be forgotten by Me!  
Jer 31:35-40; Isa 49: 14-16; Rom 8:31-39

Remember: Israel is the Subject in this text; the same is said of us elsewhere, but  
we do not replace Israel.

- Vs 22 I have (past tense, completed action) Isa 53; 2 Cor 5:14-21  
Return to me – cannot be said of the Gentiles. Eph 2:11-12  
 It can be said of Christians. 2 Cor 7:8-10  
 Repentance is a family “opportunity”. Isa 31:6; Mk. 1:1-5
- Vs 23 Shout for joy...for the Lord has...in Israel  
 He shows forth His glory. Isa 43:5-7  
 This is His plan.  
 He has revealed and declared it in advance.  
 This is what the world should be focusing on. (Christians will disappear with no fanfare and then comes the preparation for the focus.)
- Vs 24 Thus says the Lord  
 1. your Redeemer. Isa 43:14 (Assyria is the current situation.)  
 2. the One who formed you from the womb Isa 43:1,7,21  
 3. the Maker of all things.....all alone  
 Jn 1; Col. 1; Heb 1; Heb 11:3; Isa. 42:5; 45:12,18; 48:12-13
- Vs 25 The Lord, the God of Israel, is the One who:  
 1. causes the omens of boasters to fail (the ones who will say Israel is finished...)  
 2. makes fools out of all who say they can predict the future  
 3. profess themselves to be wise based upon their own knowledge, reason, experience, etc. (May the entire academic world of man be shown to be foolish when they talk about the things of God – and they all major in 2 subjects; their field of study and truth about God.)
- Vs 26 4. God has spoken, Rom 3:1-2; 9:2-5, through His servant – singular  
 5. He has performed the purpose of His messengers – plural (Not one jot or tittle will fail) Isa. 40:8  
 6. It is God and not just His spokesman who says (context – the end of the Babylonian captivity)  
 a. Jerusalem shall be inhabited (by Jews)  
 1. Destroyed by Babylon, 2 Kgs 24:10 – 25:21  
 2. Rebuilt by Cyrus, 2 Chron 36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-4  
 b. Cities of Judah shall be built  
 1. only Judah remained after 722 BC  
 2. only Judah was rebuilt after the Babylonian captivity – Samaria continued from 722 BC  
 c. The ruins of Israel will be raised up again  
 1. Israel has been represented by Judah from 722 BC through 70 AD  
 2. All 12 Tribes will be present at the Final restoration  
 Ezk 47:13 – 48:29
- Vs 27 It is I; I will; I am
- Just as the God of Israel dried up the Red Sea to allow the Israelites to leave the armies of Pharaoh behind, so in a future day, He will “dry up” a River to enable His people to return home.

1. In the short view, Cyrus diverted the waters of the Euphrates, lowering its depth to the point where his armies were able to walk across the river with the water being only 1 foot high; enabling them to destroy the Babylonians, which set up the deliverance of the Jews in captivity in Babylon.

2. In the long focus, this same Euphrates River will be dried up to enable the King of the East to descend into the “Beautiful Land”, which will set the stage for the complete Restoration of the people to their Land.

Vs 28 Cyrus, My shepherd, performing all my desire. Isa 10:5-7; 45:5

Cyrus will decree:

Jerusalem will be rebuilt – The city was rebuilt while the foundation of the Temple remained.

The foundation of the Temple will be laid.

Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-6; 4:24