

## ISAIAH – Chapter 48

Vs. 1 House of Jacob – Gen 28:10-15; named Israel – Gen 35:1-13; came forth from the loins of Judah – Gen. 49:8-10; Rom. 9:6-13.

Who swear by the name of the Lord – Deut. 6:10-16, esp. vs. 13.

Invoke the God of Israel (appeal to as authority for an action or in support of an argument; call on as a witness or for inspiration):

not in truth  
nor in righteousness

They talk of the Lord, calling out His name while they trust in idols.

Vs. 2 For, they thought that being a citizen of Jerusalem and or calling out His name somehow made them right. Rom. 2:17-25

They “lean on” the Lord of Hosts and assume that everything must be OK.

Vs. 3 I declared in advance the way things would be between God and His people (Deut. 29:1-29) and God has always followed through when it became necessary.

Vs. 4-5 When things happened it was God’s desire that Israel know and remember that it was God who was interacting with them. He did not want them to attribute His actions as random occurrences caused by other forces.

Vs. 6-9 The Lord is giving Judah new prophecies about Babylon and Cyrus. They will be going into captivity and again will be brought back out and delivered home.

The Lord wants Judah to know that He is the source of these actions and that they must not think that their experiences are the products of any other thing.

Had God chosen, He could have replaced Israel many times over and been righteous (He owes them nothing), yet for His own praise He has not replaced them and started over! Eph. 1:6, 12, 14

He is faithful when His chosen is faithless, because He cannot deny Himself (a trustworthy statement, 2 Tim. 2:11-13).

Vs. 10-11 The Lord has refined and tested Israel by means of the “furnace of affliction” though the process has not turned out like refining silver. Silver is a “pure” product, Israel is not!

God acts “for His own sake.” 1 Sam. 12:22; Ps. 25:11; 106: 6-8; Ezk. 20:9, 14, 22, 44; Dan. 9:17-19

My glory I will not give to another – God is the reason; there is no other reason!

Vs. 12-13 I (Jesus) am He. John 14:8-11

I am the first – last. Rev. 1:8, 17-18; 22:13, 20

My hand (Jesus') founded the earth. John 1; Col. 1; Heb. 1

And spread out the heavens. Gen. 2:1

I call, they stand together...sustained. Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:17

Vs. 14 Assemble...and listen.

There are two clear proofs for the uniqueness of the God of the Bible:

1. His creative power. Isa. 42:5; 44:24; 45:12, 18; 51:13, 16
2. His ability to foretell the future (as with Babylon and Cyrus).  
Isa. 44:28; 45:1

NOTE: 2 Pet. 3:3-7

God has not only called Cyrus, but has also declared that He will make him successful – the Lord loves him.

NOTE: Judah must be dealt with; God has chosen Babylon to do His will; Babylon has gone after the apple of God's eye (not to help); God will punish Babylon.

Vs. 15 In case you have missed His Plan...(God's plan for the Medo-Persians).  
Dan. 8:1-8

Vs. 16 Come near...listen to this.

The focus sharpens – we are now focusing on Christ and the Holy Spirit and that which the ultimate deliverer will accomplish.

NOTE: All 3 persons of the Godhead are mentioned in this verse.

Vs. 17 The one who was there, who was sent by the Lord, God is:

1. The Lord.
2. Israel's Redeemer. Isa. 41:14
3. Holy one of Israel.
4. The God of Israel.
  - a. their teacher.
  - b. The one who leads them.

Vs. 18-19 If only you had obeyed the Law – then. Rom 3:19-20; 4:13-16; 5:13; 7:1-12ff

Vs. 20-21 When Cyrus issues his decree – flee quickly. 2 Chron. 36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-4

Just as the Lord provided for Israel after they left Egypt, so He will provide again for them as they leave Babylon.

Vs. 22 Joyful shouting for those who obey; no peace for the wicked. Isa. 57:21