



Studies in the Book of

Isaiah

Historical Outline of Book of Isaiah

I. ASSYRIAN PERIOD - CONFLICT & VICTORY (1-39)

- A. Prophecies Concerning Judah and Jerusalem (1-12)
- B. Prophecies Concerning the Nations (13-27)
- C. The Source of True Deliverance (28-35)
- D. Historical Interlude (36-39)

II. BABYLONIAN PERIOD - HOPE FOR TROUBLED TIMES (40-66)

- A. The One True God Versus Idols (40-48)
- B. Salvation through the Suffering Servant (49-53)
- C. The Future Glory for God's People (54-66)

ISAIAH: PART 2

"The theme of the whole (part two) is the comforting announcement of the approaching deliverance, and its attendant summons to repentance. For the deliverance itself was for the Israel which remained true to the confession of Jehovah in the midst of affliction and while redemption was delayed, and not for the rebellious, who denied Jehovah in word and deed, and thus placed themselves on the level of the heathen." – Delitzsch, Isaiah, Vol. II., p. 128.

- I. Jehovah and the Idols – A Contrast. Deliverance from captivity and restoration of the Exiles, (Chs. 40-48).**
- II. The Mission of the Servant of Jehovah – Contrast between His present suffering and future glory, (Chs. 49-57).**
- III. Future Glory of the People of God and the Doom of Apostates – (a contrast between the faithful and the hypocrites in Israel). (Chs. 58-66).**

ISAIAH (PART 2 – 40-66)

I. Jehovah and the Idols – A Contrast. Deliverance from captivity and restoration of the Exiles, (Chs. 40-48).

- A. Comfort – The basis of comfort: Israel's incomparable God, (Ch. 40).
- B. Jehovah's power to predict, proof of His sole deity, (Ch. 41). (This chapter is a challenge to the idols of the nations to predict the future)
- C. Jehovah's constant care for Israel – A "Servant" besides Cyrus, (42:1-43:13).
 - 1. The Spiritual Servant – Messiah – and His work, (42:1-9).
 - 2. Hymn of thanksgiving for their deliverance (in prospect) Jehovah's glory is at stake, (42:10-17).
 - 3. Jehovah's "blind, deaf" servant, Israel, to be punished, (vv. 18-25).
 - 4. Jehovah alone is their Savior – they are His witnesses, (43:1-13).

ISAIAH (PART 2)

- D. Israel's deliverance and restoration to be an act of Jehovah's mercy, (43:14-45:25).
1. Israel shall be delivered – redeemed, (43:14-28).
 2. Jehovah, the only God, is able to deliver and redeem, (44:1-23).
 - a. Israel's spiritual recovery and regeneration, (vv. 1-5).
 - b. God alone can declare events to come, (vv. 6-8).
 - c. The folly of idolatry – a scathing rebuke against the idol manufacturers, (vv. 9-20).
 - d. Jehovah formed Israel, not they Him, (vv. 21-23).
 3. Cyrus, the anointed of Jehovah, Jehovah's agent in Israel's deliverance, (44:24-45:25).
 - a. The deliverer is finally named, Cyrus, whose coming will fulfill a specific prediction of Jehovah, (44:24-45:7).
 - b. Results of Israel's deliverance, (45:8).
 - c. Jehovah is the deliverer; Israel is not to call in question His mode of operation, (45:9-13).
 - d. Conversion of the Gentiles a consequence of the restoration and salvation of Israel, (45:14-25).

Questions

1. Give seven ways the Lord describes Himself in Isaiah 44:6-8. _____

2. Of what benefit or profit were the idolatrous images? _____
3. What other uses were made of the same tree from which the idolater made a wooden idol of his god? _____

4. The one who carried an idol failed to ask, “Is there not a _____ in my _____
_____?”
5. “Remember these things _____, and _____, for you are My
_____, Israel, _____ will not be _____ by Me.”
6. To whom is the Lord promising restoration in Isaiah 44:24-28? _____

Questions

7. What future ruler did God call by name in Isaiah 44 and 45? _____

8. “I will give you the _____ of _____ and hidden wealth of _____, so that you may know that it is ____, the _____, the _____ of _____ who calls _____ by your _____.”

9. Who had God stirred up in righteousness to rebuild His city and release the exiles? _____ Would he have to be paid to accomplish God’s purpose?

10. “I have not spoken in _____, in some _____ land... I, the Lord, speak _____, declaring things that are _____.”

Thought Question: God had intended the people of Israel to spread the knowledge of God and His power to the nations, but their faithlessness and rebellion made that impossible. How did God use the prophets and their prophecies of future history to accomplish His intent of showing Himself and His power to the nations?

Next Class

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46:1 – 48:22