

ISAIAH'S SERVANT SONG – NO. 1

Isaiah 42:1-9

“My Servant”

- Used 17 times.
- Three times the servant is specified: Isaiah (20:3), Eliakim (22:20), and David (37:35).
- Eight times the servant is Israel/Judah as a people:
 - Whose hope of deliverance is in God – 41:2, 8-16, 25ff.
 - Full of sin and headed for captivity – 42:18-25
 - Who will be blessed by God, along with the Gentiles – 44:1-5

“My Servant” the Messiah

- Used of the Messiah in the “Servant Songs”
 - The ideal Servant – 42:1-9
 - The Servant redeemer – 49:1-13
 - The Servant soliloquy – 50:4-9
 - The suffering Servant – 52:13 – 53:12
 - The Servant’s mission and results – 61:1-7
- Our focus today is the ideal Servant – Isa. 42:1-9; Matt. 12:15-21

CONTEXT OF ISAIAH 42

Context:

What Will Come to Be

- Judah will go into captivity – Isa. 39:6-7
- Future hope is not lost. God's glory will be seen among His people – 40:1-5; Mt. 3:1-3
- God would bring judgment on the nations through His deliverer.
 - He would come from the east and north, being Cyrus, king of the Medo-Persian Empire – 41:1-7, 25; 44:28; 5:1
 - The speechless idols and their creators are challenged to *show* the future as God does – 41:21-24, 26-29

GOD'S IDEAL SERVANT

Isaiah 42:1-4

God's Ideal Servant

- All are called to "behold!" God's chosen and delightful Servant – 42:1
 - He is chosen because God's soul delights in Him and for this reason Jehovah will uphold Him.
 - God's Spirit would be put upon Him, fully endowing Him for the work – Isa. 11:1-2; 61:1
 - His mission would bring justice (law, rule, government) to the Gentiles through revelation of divine truth – 42:4b; 61:1

God's Tender and Gentle Servant

- Although the proclaimer of divine truth, his demeanor would be quiet and gentle – 42:2
- He would not be dismissive of others, no matter their lot or plight – 42:3
 - He will not cast aside the weak and dying, but will nurture them back to strength and life
 - He will bring justice in truth, or faithfully, by revealing God's truth of salvation and reigning in truth – Jn. 1:17; 18:36-37
- He would not fail or be discouraged, but would bring saving truth to all the world – 42:4

JEHOVAH'S ASSURANCES

Isaiah 42:5-9

Isaiah *assures* based on...

- Who Jehovah is and the power this implies
- That Jehovah has pledged His aid to the success of His Servant
- The Jehovah says His servant will succeed

Assurances:

Jehovah—Creator of All

- God is “Ha’el,” or *the* God—the only one! – 42:5
 - He is Jehovah, the I AM of Israel
 - As Jehovah, He is creator of all things and giver of life to all people whom He will not ignore in His saving work!
- Jehovah is righteous in making His Servant...
 - Succeed as a covenant for **all people** – 42:6; Heb. 9:15; Eph. 2:11-13
 - The means of giving light to the nations, opening the eyes of the spiritually blind, and releasing the imprisoned – 42:6b-7; Col. 1:23; Jn. 1:4-5; 8:31-32
- Since Jehovah has said it—it will be so! – 42:8-9