

# † Isaiah

## Summary

1. The Comforter Through Salvation (Chapters 40-66)
  - a. Comforting the people (40-44)
  - b. Cyrus attacks Babylon (45-47)
  - c. The coming of salvation (48-59)
  - d. The establishing of the 'City of the Lord' (60-66)

## Monday (Read Isaiah 41)

God is calling all the earth to stand for judgment before Him, in order to discern truth from falsehood. He is requesting from them to ask their idols to reveal the future, if they can! As for God, He reveals to Isaiah things to come: about the coming of Cyrus from the east to deliver His people, confirming that He is the Lord of history and God of all nations, who utilizes all sources, even the pagan, to realize His care for His children. He reveals that salvation is a symbol and a preparation for a greater salvation to be realized by the Savior Messiah, who is not only the center of this whole book, but the center of the Holy Bible as a whole and our lives!

## Tuesday (Read Isaiah 42)

This chapter is one of praises to the Lord and begins with a direct prophecy regarding Christ "He will not cry out, not raise His voice" (verse 2).

Verse 6 mentions the new covenant (i.e. a promise) given by Jesus Christ. This is the promise of union with Christ, eternal life and salvation.

The chapter ends by addressing the deaf and blind people who do not listen to the voice of prophets concerning the Messiah- "seeing they did not see" and "hearing they did not see" (verse 20).

***"For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, Saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you'" Isaiah 41:19***

**"Remember the story of the three saintly youth- Sadrach, meshach and Aded-Nego (Daniel 3). The king had them thrown into the fire because they wouldn't bow to him. But the fire didn't burn them up; and when people looked into the flames, they saw four men. The fourth Man was our Lord. Because He was them they didn't burn in the fire.  
God is with you in the same way.**

**In Isaiah, He says He is holding your hand. He goes with you through the fire of hard times in your life, preventing the flames from injuring you. With your hand in His, He can calm you down when things aren't going so well. Notice that He doesn't necessarily get rid of the fire...but He can make sure it doesn't harm you!**



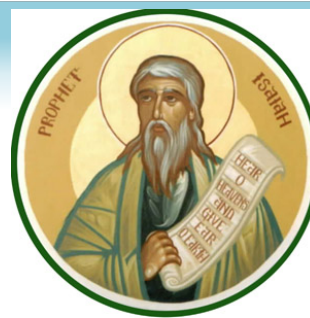
### Wednesday (Read Isaiah 43)

In this chapter, Isaiah talks about the need for divine intervention, as only Christ can redeem and save His children. The chapter begins with “But now” as though God wants to wipe the previous image of the bitter captivity of sin to His salvation and grace.

God offers His works of salvation as a free gift. But there were certain obstacles that hindered the Israel from knowing Christ:

- 1) Lack of prayer (verse 22),
- 2) Disregarded God even in the little things (verse 23 & 24)
- 3) Preoccupied with worldly cares and desires (verse 24)

But God still waits for them out of His love and calls them to come to Him saying “I will not remember your sins”. It is so comforting to know that God totally not only forgives but also forgets the sins we have done and always gives us a fresh start! Do any of the three mistakes listed above apply to me?



### **Blacksmith & Craftsman**

Blacksmiths (Is 44:12) work with iron and fire and in some ancient societies, were often regarded with suspicion and fear. They produced weapons and armor as well as plows. Craftsman (Is 44:13) made furniture and other domestic products, including looms and doorposts. They had reached very high standards way before the prophets.

### Thursday (Read Isaiah 44)

This chapter is considered a continuation of the previous one, in which God proclaims the realisation of our salvation, through pouring His Holy Spirit on His Church. It is for the sake of her continuous renewal; fulfilling, sanctifying and forgiving their sins, in place of the inner void they used to suffer during their idol worship.

The salvation that God presents to His people carries two sides: a confirmation that our satisfaction is in God, and that separating ourselves from Him is ridicule and deceit of heart.

Chapters 40 to 44 are considered an invitation to the Church to find comfort in God her Savior; for in Him alone she will find her satisfaction.



### Friday & Saturday (Read Isaiah 45)

From chapters 45 to 47 God proclaims that the source of the church's comfort is the destruction of evil opposing her. He called Cyrus 'His shepherd' (Is. 44: 28), almost two centuries before his attack on Babylon, in his capacity as an instrument of God to destroy those who humiliated His people, and to help them getting back to their land.

In 559 BC Cyrus the Great became the ruler and founder of the dynasty of Persia. Cyrus conquered the Babylonian Empire in 539 BC. So Babylon had taken over Israel, and then Cyrus and the Persians came along and defeated the Babylonians. This meant that Israel were free from their oppressors and that is why God was so fond of Cyrus! From verses 1-7, Isaiah talks about how Cyrus was chosen by God. For it is Cyrus who allows the Jews to return back to Jerusalem. See how God can use people for His work? Let Him use you! But remember, He won't go against your will, so you must submit it to Him and say “let your will be done.”