Isaiah 40-41

David Duncan · Isaiah 40:1–41:24 · Series: **Bible Class - Isaiah**

INTRODUCTION

- That's part of the assurance that we have out of this passage is that God can be entreated.
- When a person dies, there is nothing in the Bible that would indicate that God chooses the time of death.
- B stands for Babylonian. We have a contrast between God and the idols, and that starts in these two chapters.

1 Comfort, Yes, Comfort My People

Isaiah 40:1–2

- Comfort, yes, comfort my people. The repeatedness of the comfort is for emphasis.
- He calls them my people. That's a tremendous statement. That's ownership, inheritance.
- It's a statement that they're still my people. He has not cast them off.

2 Received Double for All Her Sins

Jeremiah 7:25

- Very simply, they had turned their backs on God, repudiated their relationship with him, and turned to idols. And that willful nature is what institutes this double payment.
- We understand that intent can cause an imposition of a greater sentence.
- God was diligent and daily and early, sending his prophets. Yes, they knew.
- In the face of such tremendous proof, how could they in such a short period of time turn to idols? It had to be knowingly and willfully.

3 The Voice of One Crying in the Wilderness

Isaiah 40:3–5; Matthew 3:1–3; Isaiah 11:11

- No obstacle is going to stand in the way of God and accomplishing what he says.
- Does it have to be one or the other? I say to you that it really can be both.
- So when comfort is proclaimed to God's people, where is it so important that it goes out from? The place they are, in Babylon.
- Not a literal highway, but as travel on a highway is without obstacle. So when God brings back his people, there will be no obstacle.

4 To Whom Then Will You Liken God?

Isaiah 40:6–26; Amos 9:6

- The very breath of God can cause civilizations to fall. But the word of our Lord stands forever.
- He will feed his flock like a shepherd, and gather the lambs under his arm, and carry them in his bosom.
- All nations before him are as nothing, and they are counted by him less than nothing and worthless.

- The point is that God is above the earth. God rules over the earth.

5 Those Who Wait on the Lord Shall Renew Their Strength

Isaiah 40:27–31; 2 Corinthians 4:16–17

- Apparently, those in Babylon would think that God had forgotten them, and that he was not powerful enough to bring them out.
- The everlasting God, the Lord, the creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary.
- Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not be faint.
- Therefore we do not lose heart, even though our outward man is perishing. Yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

6 You, Israel, Are My Servant; Present Your Case

Isaiah 40:1–6

- The idols are not an obstacle to God accomplishing what he has said he would do.
- God says, I have not cast you away. Wait on the Lord, lift up your strength. God will bring you back.
- Israel will be a witness, a demonstration of God's strength and faithfulness.
- This key point about knowing the end from the beginning is a key part of the evidence for the Bible, being the Word of God.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **But this is a primary evidence, and we need to be aware of that and use it that way.**

MY NOTES