



#### The Father Knows Best

School of the Bible Class

Isaiah

Isaiah 42 034 February 12, 2023

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## Summary of Isaiah 40-41

- "The preceding messages deal with God's words of comfort and encouragement, which were supposed to cause the people in Jerusalem (a) to look to God for strength and deliverance and (b) to reject the idea that they needed to fear any attacking army or their gods. These nations and their gods are nothing in God's eyes (40:15-23; 41:21-24, 28), for God is the one who sovereignly directs the course of history (41:2-4, 10-16)."
- Smith, Gary U. Isaiah 40-66: Volume 15 (The New American Commentary) (p. 167), B&H Publishing Group, Kindle Edition.

#### In Our Day—Idols

- We stopped to look at a <u>super big modern idol</u>—the measure is "The Man" and his ideal of living by his <u>planning cycle</u> rather than depend on God's word. There is a vast <u>business funded machine designed</u> to take down the Creator God and any thing He has authored—production, the neuclur family—
- We showed that one such super funded organization is—
- The World Economic Forum. It is a dominant organization that promotes—compels all people to obey its directives—or be faced with extinction. (i.e. be cancelled.) Example: Rosanne Barr of all people was taken down!
- We saw that this idol is not held in place by silver nails but by poorly crafted lies—lies that must be accepted and repeated, enlarged, only because of the power of those who speak them.
- Its power is not truth but to intimidate, ridicule and disenfranchise.

#### Hear O Israel There is One God—

- But we serve the same God as Israel. We too can find comfort in the God who tells us not to fear idol makers—regardless of their claims.
- Only God can explain the past and state with certainty the future!
  - How many global warnings do we have to endure?
- We ended with the encouraging truth—a familiar passage many have memorized—

#### God Assures Us! Remember Isa. 40!

- <sup>28</sup>Do you not know?
- Have you not heard?
- The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth
- (He) Does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable.
- <sup>29</sup>He gives strength to the weary,
- And to him who lacks might He increases power.

#### God Assures Us! Remember Isa. 40!

- 30Though youths grow weary and tired.
- And vigorous young men stumble badly.
- 31Yet those who wait for the Lord
- Will gain new strength:
- They will mount up with wings like eagles.
- They will run and not get tired.
- They will walk and not become weary.

#### Shifting—after 41 Chapters

- In the providence of God, consistent with his progressive revelation, after 41 chapters it is time to introduce the action figure that will make all these promised things happen.
- Until now in the life of Israel—God, (Lord God)
  has been the dominant figure as their
  Providential provider protector.

#### God is Further Revealed

- After 41 chapters seeing God's actions and His prediction, His protection, judgment and recovery, we see a new image of this "Force."
- We would expect the Grand Image to be in terms of a throne room scene as described in Isaiah 6 where the angelic beings sing one song —Holy, Holy Holy.

#### God is Further Revealed

- We saw in the opening of (chapter) 40 that the voice is "Speaking" comfort. In 40:1 and later a voice call out—we have already encountered the Action Figure, this figure is a rational being—one that communicates and acts—
- But we are not to think of some Dark Star Wars
   Force—

#### God is Further Revealed

- Rather this is a knowable One— a reference to the Divine—we would expect then that "high language" like holy, holy, holy, would be used to acquaint us with this Personage.
- Surprisingly, rather than going high in the introduction the text goes low—
- This person is described as—

# My Servant

## My Servant

Yet this person is highly favored, protected, promoted and worthy—

#### "Behold, My Servant,

Yet this person is highly favored, protected, promoted and worthy—

- whom I uphold;
- My chosen one in whom
- My soul delights.
- I have put My Spirit upon Him:
- He will bring forth justice to the nations."



## An Idea Clarified

Think of the books in the Bible written to this point Roughly to 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles

#### An Idea Clarified

- From Genesis to the Prophets—can you think of a time when something like Isaiah 42:1 is said?
- The reality is that in this text we have a new expansion of our understanding of the Godhead, what was here-to-fore alluded to but now is made much clearer.
- Thus we have for the first time a detailed revelation of the Son and information about His relation to God the Father.

#### Put on Your Jewish Expectation

- For Israel this is an expansion of the idea of the Shema "Hear,
   O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! Deuteronomy 6:4
- While the Trinitarian God is revealed in the opening chapters of Genesis in creation—the God/Father (Jehovah) is dominant in His presentation in the Old Testament.
- However, as Israel will be "saved in Isaiah" it is time to unwrap the personage of the Godhead that will accomplish this.
- Most Jews have not grown in their understanding of the Trinitarian Godhead, to their destruction.

#### "Behold, My Servant,

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#### The Servant's Work

#### He will bring forth justice to the nations."

- The most important of all the things the Servant will accomplish is—
  JUSTICE TO THE NATIONS is the only thing mentioned as a benefit. The Son
  will bring other things to the earth—as peace, productivity, power,
  population, provision, God's presence. These are all products of the
  Messianic Kingdom—But—
- Why not forgiveness, material provision, social acceptance etc.
- But true justice, as holiness, is foundational to any social construct.
- If you look out your front door, what one thing would fix our upset world? JUSTICE FOR ALL! What else? Health care, can you name something else?
- If justice is served, then all warring, sinning, pain, hurt, want of— even starvation that accompanies life in a fallen world would disappear.

#### Connection to Isaiah 41

- "... just as God promised to "uphold" (tmk) his fearful oppressed people in 41:10, so he will "uphold" (tmk) his servant in 42:1."
- Smith, Gary V. Isaiah 40-66: Volume 15 (The New American Commentary) (p. 173). B&H Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

# "He will bring forth justice to the nations."

#### Justice with God

- We tend to think of justice as punishment after a crime is committed. In this way our courts render punishments as "justice" for the victim or family—usually fines, imprisonment but (fines go to the court not the family) reparations for the family? Rarely! How does a family recover personal losses—they just don't. Is that justice or someones idea of it?
- However, when justice is promised in the days of the Messiah
   —perfect justice is not allowing a crime to be committed.
- Think of it this way. Our justice says in Chicago, justice is satisfied when the criminal is caught and punished.

#### Justice with God

- Justice in Messianic terms is that in Chicago no one can murder —justice is that the murderer is "taken out."
- This is true justice (100% correctness or fairness). It renders true justice for the innocent.
- In the "crime" the victim remains undamaged—
- In today's Chicago the victim is dead, the family grieves, the criminal being caught and even executed but this hardly is true justice. What kind of wreckage is left in the wake of a murder even if the criminal is punished.

#### Man's Justice Responds to a Sinful Act

- In Chicago keeping an 18 year old son from being shot is better than the son being shot dead and a million dollars given in reparations, hardly true justice!
- So human justice is only approximated?
- Man can attempt true justice—but he cannot know motives, more damage is done trying to head off a crime—judging motives is dangerous and impossible. But—
- GOD CAN DELIVER ABSOLUTE JUSTICE—HE KNOWS THE HEART.
- In man's justice, (the judge cannot know the heart) nothing can ever fix a bad deed and make it good.
- In God's just Kingdom the bad— can never happen.

#### McClain's Universal Kingdom?

- It is said that there is a Universal Kingdom of God that has existed since eternity past and it is in this Kingdom that God rules today.
- But the idea of a Kingdom of God as a present reality is smitten by this reality— Where is the justice today?
- The Bible is clear that the Lord God rules, has despotic DOMINION OVER HIS CREATION. This is clear from the moment He made the heavens and earth. He spoke all this into existence He made all—owns it all.

#### Justice in the Kingdom—

- So, what kind of "Kingdom of God" flourishes in the world today? What are the products ascribed to it? Say productivity, peace, power, population, provision, God's very presence on a throne—as in the Messianic kingdom.
- We ask again—
- What are the products of this Universal kingdom?
- Having recently reviewed a paper by William Barrick, The Kingdom of God in the Old Testament, he lists the Messianic kingdom products above but never mentions (as far as I can tell) a product of the Universal Kingdom which he writes to defend.
- Master Seminary Journal 23/2 (Fall 2012) 173-192.
- Clarification—By product we mean, what would be missing if the kingdom did not exist.

#### Justice in the Kingdom—

- For example, we can demonstrate that the product of the Messianic Kingdom is peace, prosperity, lack of any good thing—Barrick did that for us!
- The Messianic Kingdom produces a perfect society without want or any negative effects of evil. We could go on and mention absolute justice, by protecting the innocent etc. the Kingdom is glorious because it does things for its subjects and its King—it produces these things.

#### Rejecting the Messianic Kingdom Forces one the adopt a spiritual an immaterial one

- Now for those who do not recognize the Messianic earthly kingdom, they have no alternative but to turn to a spiritualized or spiritual kingdom—of course the midwife of this idea was Augustine.
- The hoped-for products of the Spiritual Kingdom today are the same as the Messianic Kingdom, peace, justice, lack of want, end of bigotry, death and dying. (Woke culture has the same goals as Covenantal Amillenniaism.) So they are forced into the political arena to accomplish the Kingdom on earth—but so far, the imagined Kingdom of God is a failure—there is no justice.

# But Political Persuasion Will not bring in the kingdom—2nd Advent will

- 1"Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations.
- 2"He will not cry out or raise His voice, Nor make His voice heard in the street.
- 3"A bruised reed He will not break And a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish; He will faithfully bring forth justice. Isaiah 42:1–3

#### For the Entire Text

- 2"He will not cry out or raise His voice, Nor make His voice heard in the street.
- We are quickly told that this Servant will not come by gaining political power.
- He is not campaigning in the street to be elected to office.
- "My chosen one"—is in office by appointment by God the Father.

## Favoring a Class Ruins Justice

#### Justice is not effected by favoritism—

- 3"A bruised reed He will not break And a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish; He will faithfully bring forth justice." Isaiah 42:1–3
- We return to justice again—it will be equally applied to all. This is so opposite of how we find "man's justice" applied. The high and mighty can get away with murder, but a parent showing up to complain at a school board meeting warrants an FBI investigation. People show up at the capital to protest a corrupt election are held for years without charges and denied bail. Yet this system allows the destruction of our cities by hired criminals who are quickly released, many are never charged—justice has fallen.

#### Messianic Kingdom on Earth

- 4"He will not be disheartened or crushed Until He has established justice in the earth; And the coastlands will wait expectantly for His law." Isaiah 42:4-6
- This statement covers quite a long time. As the Lord waits His (1st and 2nd Coming—he will rule as King) he is patiently waiting but is not crushed to inaction—this attentiveness continues until the 2nd Advent.
- The coastland (nations) personified suffers under man's laws
   —waits for God to render righteous laws and true justice.

#### Dealing with the Creator God!

- God the Father: 5Thus says God the Lord, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and its offspring, Who gives breath to the people on it And spirit to those who walk in it,
- 6"I am the Lord, (Father) I have called You (Son) in righteousness, I will also hold You by the hand and watch over You, And I will appoint You as a covenant (promise) to the people, As a light to the nations, Isaiah 42:4-6

## The Claim of Superiority

#### Applied to Jesus at His Incarnation

- 7To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the dungeon And those who dwell in darkness from the prison.
- Isaiah 42:7

sitting in darkness saw a great Light, And those who were sitting in the land and shadow of death, Upon them a Light dawned."

17From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Matthew 4:16–17

# Applied to Jesus at His Incarnation

8"I am the Lord, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images. Isaiah 42:8

# Applied to Jesus at His Incarnation

9"Behold, the former things (I have predicted) have come to pass, Now I declare new things; (that have not happened) Before they spring forth I proclaim them to you." Isaiah 42:9

### Response Hymn

#### A Response Hymn

- 10Sing to the Lord a new song, Sing His praise from the end of the earth! You who go down to the sea, and all that is in it. You islands, and those who dwell on them.
- 11Let the wilderness and its cities lift up their voices, The settlements where Kedar inhabits. Let the inhabitants of Sela sing aloud, Let them shout for joy from the tops of the mountains.
- 12Let them give glory to the Lord And declare His praise in the coastlands. Isaiah 42:10–12

#### Second Advent For the Eschaton

• 13The Lord will go forth like a warrior, He will arouse His zeal like a man of war. He will utter a shout, yes, He will raise a war cry. He will prevail against His enemies. Isaiah 42:13

# In the Eschaton—2nd Advent

#### In the Eschaton—2nd Advent

- 14"I have kept silent for a long time, I have kept still and restrained Myself. Now like a woman in labor I will groan, I will both gasp and pant.
- 15" I will lay waste the mountains and hills And wither all their vegetation; I will make the rivers into coastlands And dry up the ponds. Isaiah 42:14–15

#### Wars With God Armageddon et al

- 16" I will lead the blind (Gentiles) by a way they do not know, In paths they do not know I will guide them. I will make darkness into light (make sinning attractive) before them
- And rugged places (obstacles) into plains. (Meta? or real?)
   These are the things I will do, And I will not leave them undone." (In abandonment judgment)
- 17They will be turned back (on their wickedness) and be utterly put to shame, (These) Who trust in idols, Who say to molten images, "You are our gods." Isaiah 42:16–17

#### Israel as God's "servant"

- 18Hear, you deaf! And look, you blind, that you may see.
- <sup>19</sup>Who is blind but My servant, Or so deaf as My messenger whom I send? Who is so blind as he that is at peace with Me, Or so blind as the servant of the Lord? (saiah 42:18–19)

#### Israel as God's Servant

- 20You have seen many things, but you do not observe them; Your ears are open, but none hears.
- 21The Lord was pleased for His righteousness' sake To make the law great and glorious. Isaiah 42:20–21

#### Israel as God's Servant

• <sup>22</sup>But this is a people plundered and despoiled; All of them are trapped in caves, Or are hidden away in prisons; They have become a prey with none to deliver them, And a spoil, with none to say, "Give them back!" Isaiah 42:20–22

#### Israel a Microcosm of Mankind

- 23Who among you will give ear to this? Who will give heed and listen hereafter?
- <sup>24</sup>Who gave Jacob up for spoil, and Israel to plunderers? Was it not the Lord, against whom we have sinned, And in whose ways they were not willing to walk, And whose law they did not obey?
- 25So He poured out on him the heat of His anger And the fierceness of battle; And it set him aflame all around, Yet he did not recognize it; And it burned him, but he paid no attention. Isaiah 42:23–25

#### The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

- But now, thus says the Lord, your Creator, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!
- 2"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you. Isaiah 43:1–2

#### Chapter 42 Then—

- We have an introduction to the Savior of Israel in the clearest terms thus far in revelation.
- It is clear that the Savior is a powerful being that works in concert with the God of Israel (as they have understood him).
- But Isaiah 42:1 lifts the curtain on the Godhead here-tofore not understood.
- The Savior of Israel has been established as a person of the Godhead.

## Thus far—







