

035



The Father Knows Best

School of the Bible Class

Isaiah

Isaiah 43

035

February 19, 2023

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Indian Hills Community Church

Detectives looking for Eschatological Evidences in Isaiah

Tribulation and Kingdom Truth



Continuing

God's Favor Shows

- We are now a couple of chapters into the **Comfort Section of Isaiah**.
- The emphasis has shifted from **Israel under judgment** to **Israel my servant** to be redeemed.
- We saw last week in the same chapter that the Lord, the God of Israel, the Second Person of the Godhead also claims to be **The Servant**.
- Certainly both have their duty to their Authority.
 - The Son to the Father, Israel to the Son—

Chosen but a Servant

True for the Son and Israel God's Chosen

- As we have said from the beginning of our study, Isaiah is a prophetic book—the most significant book for its **Kingdom prophecies**. For the Jew the **Kingdom is the glorious state**. There is nothing beyond as a better yet—“Eternal State.” It's all tied up in the “**Kingdom of God**.”
- We are astounded at the patience God exercises in the restoration of **His Righteousness**.
- Last week we had an abrupt statement that the elected and anointed (Son) will bring **Justice to the Nations** (World). 42:1
- We pointed out that a “**Kingdom of God**” today even though suggested originally by Augustine, not Scriptural, it cannot be a **real kingdom of God**. **Proof: There is no God-like justice in the world today.**

Where is the Justice in the Universal Kingdom

- From last week—In the (earthly Messianic) Kingdom God's justice stops social sinning—before it can happen. “No one will hurt in my holy mountain” Isa. 42:1 “He will bring forth justice to the nations.”
- We made the point that if there is a Kingdom of God, today (Universal/Spiritual etc.) in which He rules why is there so much Chicago injustice?
- If your answer is—Its a different kind of kingdom.
- You have just made my point. A kingdom is a kingdom only when——

Careful not to Make a Metaphor the Real Thing



- A kingdom has a (1) visible king, (2) a territorial realm and (3) obedient people (willing or otherwise).
- All three have to be present for a kingdom to exist.
- Otherwise if “king” or “kingdom” is used it must be metaphorical. (as in a simile, poetic expression etc.)
- Of course, these uses happen in Scripture, but then only from the time of King David onward (Psalms) when the concept of a king in Israel would be understood.
- And to further confuse the sheep (Augustine lives in the mind of the translators!) the word in the original often is DOMAIN but is Tx king or kingdom.

In the Greatness of the Kingdom For McClain it is the Universal Kingdom!

- McClain— (p. 25) “Perhaps the finest and clearest testimony regarding the existence of the Universal Kingdom of God in the Old Testament times was uttered by David as he gave his last instruction to his son Solomon and reviewed the goodness of the Lord towards his house and the nation of Israel. No one understood better than David the reality of that divine Kingdom in history of which he had been anointed as the mediatorial king. But above and beyond the limits of the land of Palestine and the city of Jerusalem, David saw another and a greater Kingdom, [ed. ?] describing it in these wonderful words: “Thine O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom (lit: dominion). O LORD, and thou are exalted as head over all...and thou reignest [exalt] over all” (1 Chron. 29:11-12).
- If this is the best Old Testament text for the Universal Kingdom? —then perhaps his argument is relatively weak. Actually: David has the promise of an eternal dynasty—that is why he praises God—who alone can grant this kingdom to David. It is a new thing. Saul’s dynasty died!

The Reason this Matters

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

- 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 Amillennialism.) So they are forced into the political arena to accomplish the Kingdom of Peace on earth—but so far, the imagined Kingdom of God is a failure—there is no justice.

Rejecting the Messianic Kingdom Forces one to adopt a spiritual and immaterial one

- FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM, they have no alternative but to turn to a spiritual kingdom—of course the midwife
- The hoped-for products are the same as the Messianic Kingdom: justice, lack of want, end of suffering, etc. (The culture has the same goals as political socialism.) So they are forced into the political realm to accomplish the Kingdom of Peace on earth—but so far, the imagined Kingdom of God is a failure—there is no justice.

The Beatitudes are the foundation for Kingdom Living! TODAY

A row of wooden blocks against a light blue background. On the left, several blocks are falling at various angles. On the right, a row of blocks stands upright. The text 'Lost Opportunities' is overlaid on the falling blocks, and 'Opportunities' is overlaid on the standing blocks.

**Lost
Opportunities**

Opportunities

A solid blue arrow pointing upwards from the text 'PRESENT GENERATION' to the standing blocks.

**PRESENT
GENERATION**

To our Isaiah 43

Opportunities for the still standing and coming generations



Chosen but a Servant
True for the Son
and Israel God's Chosen

- We also pointed out that the first section (1-39) is about God's disciplines and some about His restoration—
- The second section (40-66) is about Israel's redemption which is often played off of her failures resulting in their chastisement—my picture of lost opportunities!
- We have this kind of mix already in chapter 42 that ends of a very sour note. But with chapter 43 the Lord, the Servant takes up his chosen servant in his arms and comforts them— we ended last week in chapter 43:1.

The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

- ¹But 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





Chosen but a Servant
True for the Son and Israel God's
Chosen

- This is quite a sweeping statement covering centuries of a failing Israel who never escapes the harsh grasp of their Maker, Sustainer and yes, Comforter. It is true—
- That every person in Israel can cash in on this promise.
- They only need to trust the Lord (for salvation). They may die young or old and before the Kingdom is established but by the promise of the resurrection they will be part of the Kingdom in a way they could not imagine. The renegade Jew is lost forever!



The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

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- ²“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. (Not all die!)
- When you walk through the fire, you (elect) will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you. Isaiah 43:1–2

We cannot be
emphatic here
however if you
were to assign
something to
these
elements—

The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

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- When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you. Isaiah 43:1–2

The waters and rivers are the various difficulties of Israel ending in the Diaspora.

The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

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- 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

The fire a
common
expression of
Jacob's Trouble
—the
tribulation.

All Things New in the Eschaton

- How can there be hope in the old system? The old judgments, the Old Law? The sinning population?
- We are told, in the providence of God, He will restore justice in His creation when He installs his Son, the righteous King, who will bring justice to the nations (Is. 42:1)—social sinning will stop dead in its tracks—no one will be hurt!
- How can God accomplish all this? Is not all under judgment?
- But the curse will be lifted in the regeneration, restoration, rebirth and as stated in Rev 21:5 “behold I am making all things new!” New a repeated concept! NEW!



Protection in the Tribulation

- Now you may protest—How is it that God protects while He judges as in the destructive Tribulation? “For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. Matthew 24:21
- Remember the promise to Abram. Remember the Remnant—
- These words of comfort are for those who are converted or will be converted in time for the Kingdom. There is hope in Jacob’s Trouble.
- While the unrighteous nation and the obstinate of the Jews necessitate this judgment, the judgment is for a short while—in the mean time there is protection (for sake of the elect Matt 24) anticipating the Restoration, when I make all things new— this is the comfort.
- Living a long life is really no comfort—ask any 85 year old!

All Things New a Sample of the Theme By My Predictive Authority!

Last week: Isaiah 42:9“Behold,
the former things have come to
pass,

Now I declare new things;
Before they spring forth I
proclaim them to you.”

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.

Jump ahead

Isaiah 43:19“Behold, I will do
something new,

Now it will spring forth;

Will you not be aware of it?

I will even make a roadway in
the wilderness,

Rivers in the desert.

Kingdom Talk

How will Israel Know it's True?

The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

- 3“For I am the Lord your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in your place.
- 4“Since you are precious in My sight, Since you are honored and I love you, I will give other men in your place and other peoples in exchange for your life. **Isaiah 43:3–4**

The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

- 3“For I am the Lord your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in your place.
- It is hard to assign an historical event to this statement especially if as in a Hebrew dualism when it is connected with other nations in Africa—
- Then—how does God gives these nations as ransom payment to Israel?

The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

- 4“Since you are precious in My sight, Since you are honored and I love you, I will give other men in your place and other peoples (nations) in exchange for your life. Isaiah 43:3–4
- Solution: We suggest that in the schemata of God’s choosing Israel, he used the nations to punish them. But in that punishment Israel is rewarded by cutting down the nations that were the instruments of persecution—in this way the nations paid a ransom to Israel.

“The Products of Egypt” Is. 45:14

Overlapping Truth in a coming chapter

- **“Thus says the Lord, “The products of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush And the Sabeans, men of stature, Will come over to you and will be yours; They will walk behind you, they will come over in chains And will bow down to you; They will make supplication to you: (they will say) ‘Surely, God is with you, and there is none else, No other God.’ ”Isaiah 45:14**

Last Week An Example?

Israel will winnow the nations who attack

Israel the Last Nation Standing

- 15“Behold, I have made you a new, sharp threshing sledge with double edges; You will thresh the mountains and pulverize them, And will make the hills like chaff.
 - (A glimpse of this in the present miraculous saving of Israel)
- 16“You will winnow them, and the wind will carry them away, And the storm will scatter them; But you will rejoice in the Lord, You will glory in the Holy One of Israel. Isaiah 41:15–16

The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

- 5“Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, And gather you from the west.
- 6“I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ And to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring My sons from afar And My daughters from the ends of the earth, Isaiah 43:56

**Regathering
for the
Kingdom**

The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

- ⁷Everyone who is called by My name, And whom I have created for My glory, Whom I have formed, even whom I have made.” Isaiah 43:7

Regathering
for the
Kingdom



A Challenge of the “gods”

See you in court!

Is this for Israel or the Nations or both?

Who are the deaf, blind and “dumb” ?

Anyone one can see God at work!

- ⁸Bring out the **people** who are blind, even though they have eyes, And the deaf, even though they have ears.
- ⁹All the **nations** have gathered together So that the **peoples** may be assembled. **[Q.] Who among them can declare this And proclaim to us the former things? Let them present their witnesses that they may be justified, Or let them hear and say, (they made a good prophecy) “It is true.”** (Isaiah 43:8–9)

At Least Israel Knew God was Active

- ¹⁰“You (Israel/nations) are My witnesses,” declares the Lord, “And My servant (Israel) whom I have chosen, So that you (all) may know and believe Me And understand that I am He.
- [A¹] Before Me there was no God formed, And there will be none after Me.
- ¹¹[A²]“I, even I, am the Lord, And there is no savior besides Me. Isaiah 43:10–11

Israel Knows—has seen the Acts

- ¹²“It is I who have declared and saved and proclaimed, And there was no strange god among you; So you are My witnesses,” declares the Lord, “And I am God. (In spite of their false gods fetish) ¹³“Even from eternity I am He, And there is none who can deliver out of My hand; I act and who can reverse it?” Isaiah 43:12–13



Historic to the Eschaton

Babylon is not yet a threat

A Prediction Cyrus will Come up

- ¹⁴Thus says the Lord your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, “For your sake I have sent to Babylon, And will bring them (Judah) all down as fugitives, Even the Chaldeans, into the ships in which they rejoice.
- ¹⁵“I am the Lord, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King.” (Prolepsis use or Son of Davidic King) Isaiah 43:14–15

A Prediction Cyrus will Come up

- 14 The representation of a thing as existing before it actually does or did so, as in *he was a dead man when he entered*. Compare with analepsis: *the destruction of the Vendôme Column and his part in it are foreshadowed in moments of haunting prolepsis.*
- 15 “I am the Lord, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, **your King.**” (Prolepsis use) Isaiah 43:14–15

The Past is a Prelude for the Future

Past

- ¹⁶Thus says the Lord, Who makes a way through the sea
And a path through the mighty waters,

Future

- ¹⁷Who brings forth the chariot and the horse, The army
and the mighty man (They will lie down together and not
rise again; They have been quenched and extinguished
like a wick):
- ¹⁸“Do not call to mind the former things, Or ponder
things of the past. Isaiah 43:16–18
- As in the argument for uniformitarianism of 2 Peter 3:4.

The Hope of Israel in the Eschaton

Future

- 19“Behold, I will do something new, [The Kingdom] Now it will spring forth; Will you not be aware of it? I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, Rivers in the desert.
- 20“**The beasts of the field will glorify Me, The jackals and the ostriches, Because I have given waters in the wilderness And rivers in the desert, To give drink to My chosen people.**
- 21“**The people whom I formed for Myself Will declare My praise. Isaiah 43:19–21**



But We cannot go back to the Future

There are many problems Israel will encounter before they will agree with God. It will take centuries at least two millenniums.

Back to the Generations of Obstinacy

- ²²“Yet you have not called on Me, O Jacob; But you have become weary of Me, O Israel.
- ²³“You have not brought to Me the sheep of your burnt offerings, Nor have you honored Me with your sacrifices. I have not burdened you with offerings, Nor wearied you with incense.
- ²⁴“You have bought Me not sweet cane with money, Nor have you filled Me with the fat of your sacrifices; Rather you have burdened Me with your sins, You have wearied Me with your iniquities. Isaiah 43:22–24

Case In Court Again

2500 years of Prophecy before our eyes

- 25“**I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins.**
- 26“**Put Me in remembrance, let us argue our case together; State your cause, that you may be proved right.**
- 27“**Your first forefather sinned, And your spokesmen have transgressed against Me.**
- 28“**So I will pollute the princes of the sanctuary, And I will consign Jacob to the ban and Israel to revilement. Isaiah 43:25–28**
- **Until I come to make things NEW! In the Eschaton!**

Isaiah 44

Isaiah 44

- **1“But now listen, O Jacob, My servant, And Israel, whom I have chosen:**
- **2Thus says the Lord who made you And formed you from the womb, who will help you, ‘Do not fear, O Jacob My servant; And you Jeshurun whom I have chosen. Isaiah 44:1–2**

Isaiah 44

- **3‘For I will pour out water on the thirsty land And streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring And My blessing on your descendants;**
- **4‘And they will spring up among the grass Like poplars by streams of water.’ Isaiah 44:3–4**

Isaiah 44

- **5“This one will say, ‘I am the Lord’s’; And that one will call on the name of Jacob; And another will write on his hand, ‘Belonging to the Lord,’ And will name Israel’s name with honor. Isaiah 44:5**

- **6“Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: ‘I am the first and I am the last, And there is no God besides Me.**
- **7“Who is like Me? Let him proclaim and declare it; Yes, let him recount it to Me in order, From the time that I established the ancient nation. And let them declare to them the things that are coming And the events that are going to take place.**
- **8“Do not tremble and do not be afraid; Have I not long since announced it to you and declared it? And you are My witnesses. Is there any God besides Me, Or is there any other Rock? I know of none.’ ”Isaiah 44:6–8**

**But they Fall Down and Worship
a Block of Wood**

Isaiah 44:9-20

Thus far—

We end on a note of hope again!