
“Beside Me There Is No Savior”

Lesson
38
Summary

Isaiah 40; Isaiah speaks Messianically—Prepare ye the way of the Lord—He shall feed his flock like a shepherd—Israel’s God is incomparably great.

Isaiah 41; To Israel the Lord says: Ye are my servants; I will preserve you—Idols are nothing—One shall bring good tidings to Jerusalem.

Isaiah 42; Isaiah speaks Messianically—The Lord shall bring his law and his judgment, be a light to the Gentiles, and free the prisoners—Praise ye the Lord.

Isaiah 43; To Israel the Lord says: I am thy God; I will gather thy seed; beside me there is no Savior; ye are my witnesses.

Isaiah 44; The Lord’s Spirit shall be poured out on the seed of Israel—Idols of wood are as fuel for a fire—The Lord shall gather, bless, and redeem Israel, and rebuild Jerusalem.

Isaiah 45; Cyrus shall free the captives of Israel from Babylon—Come unto Jehovah (Christ) and be saved—To him every knee shall bow and every tongue shall swear.

Isaiah 46; Idols are not to be compared with the Lord—He alone is God and shall save Israel.

Isaiah 47; Babylon and Chaldea shall be destroyed for their iniquities—None shall save them. Isa. 48 The Lord reveals his purposes to Israel—They have been chosen in the furnace of affliction and are to go forth from Babylon—Compare 1 Nephi 20.

Isaiah 48; The Lord reveals his purposes to Israel—They have been chosen in the furnace of affliction and are to go forth from Babylon—Compare 1 Nephi 20.

Isaiah 49; Messiah shall be a light to the Gentiles and shall free the prisoners—Israel shall be gathered with power in the last days—Kings shall be their nursing fathers—Compare 1 Nephi 21.

Supplemental Holy Land and Jewish insights:

Isaiah Said What He Meant: The other day at the Western (Wailing) Wall, I was reading Isaiah to the gathered guests around me. It was a festive “Bar Mitzvah” day, there was a pleasant spirit as I let the scriptures speak for themselves, offering pauses and voice inflections that allowed key words to explain themselves. A young man, an Orthodox Jew who was observing and listening to us, began to say that Isaiah could not be understood in

English, that we were interpreting it incorrectly. Even though we were not reading about a “virgin birth,” he said that there are different meanings for “virgin.” I thought, what made him refer to the virgin when we were reading something completely different? Was the spirit telling him something that the conscious mind did not want to accept? My guests smiled as they noticed his objection to our sensing the Savior’s qualities - just letting Isaiah speak. I gently responded to him in Hebrew. It says the same in Hebrew!

Did He Mean More Than What He Said? Remember, there are two things necessary to understand the scriptures - the learning of the Jews and the Holy Spirit that reveals the subtleties. This lesson chapter deals with so many qualities of the Lord that it would be impractical to comment on each one. One beautiful attribute is his being, his body that he gave for us. Could Isaiah have been suggesting that everything around us can remind us of him, even “body language” refers to him? The Lord was called from the womb, a perfect body with attributes as eyes, ears, mouth, tongue, neck, heart, shoulder, hands, arms, belly, leg, knee, and foot.

Let the Words Speak for Themselves: “Lift up your eyes on high,” *Isaiah 40:26*; “To open the blind eyes,” *Isaiah 42:7*; “Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears . . .” *Isaiah 43:8*; Seeing many things, but thou observest not; opening the ears, but he heareth not.” *Isaiah 42:20*; “. . . thy neck is an iron sinew, and thy brow

brass;" *Isaiab 48:4*; "... for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it." *Isaiab 40:5*; "... the hand of the LORD hath done this. . ." *Isaiab 41:20*; "Hear, ye deaf; and look, ye blind, that ye may see." *Isaiab 42:18*; "... for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand." *Isaiab 44:18*; "... Thou hast heard, see all this . . ." *Isaiab 48:6*; "Kings shall see . . ." *Isaiab 49:7*; "And they shall be made perfect notwithstanding their blindness," *JST Isaiab 42:20*; "... formed me from the womb . . . glorious in the eyes of the LORD," *Isaiab 49:5*; "Lift up thine eyes round about," *Isaiab 49:18*; "... say again in thine ears," *Isaiab 49:20*; "... for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it." *Isaiab 40:5*; "... the word is gone out of my mouth . . . every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." *Isaiab 45:23*; "I have declared the former things from the beginning; and they went forth out of my mouth, and I showed them . . . and they came to pass." *Isaiab 48:3*; "... my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me," *Isaiab 49:2*; "... their tongue faileth . . ." *Isaiab 41:17*; "... yet he laid it not to heart." *Isaiab 42:25*; "... considereth in his heart . . ." *Isaiab 44:19*; "... a deceived heart . . . my right hand . . ." *Isaiab 44:20*; thou didst not lay these things to thy heart," *Isaiab 47:7*; "Then shalt thou say in thine heart, Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children," *Isaiab 49:21*; "... He hath no hands . . ." *Isaiab 45:9*; "... and concerning the work of my hands . . ." *Isaiab 45:11*; "... my hands, have stretched out the heavens . . ." *Isaiab 45:12*; "I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands . . ." *Isaiab 49:16*; "... make bare the leg, uncover the thigh . . ." *Isaiab 47:2*; "... the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him:" *Isaiab 40:10*; "... he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom . . ." *Isaiab 40:11*; "... his arm shall be on the Chaldeans . . ." *Isaiab 48:14*; "... with the strength of his arms . . ." *Isaiab 44:12*; "I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders." *Isaiab 49:22*; "... with his feet." *Isaiab 41:3*; "And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet," *Isaiab 49:23*; "... called him to his foot," *Isaiab 41:2*;

Isaiah Reminds Us, the Savior Is Real: This constant use of body language can be seen as a metaphor of the "Body of Christ." "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." *1 Corinthians 12:27*

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