

Isaiah Chapter 41

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 112 (1st floor, backside of the High School, facing Mac Arthur, near the east corner, adjacent to the High School office), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – [Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com); email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION YE SAINTS OF THE LORD (Is. 41:10) – Festival Choir (1:44)

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent word!

What more can He say than to you He hath said, To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

*“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.”
By omnipotent hand.*

GENERAL OUTLINE OF ISAIAH: Referred to as the “Fifth Gospel” since the third century!

Possible date of kings reign” - Uzziah, - 792-740; Jotham, - 750-736; Ahaz, - 735-720 Northern Kingdom of Israel falls to Assyria in 722BC; Hezekiah, - 715-699/686; Manasseh – 687-642

Isaiah’s time of prophecy - About a minimum of 40 years and possibly more than 60 years!

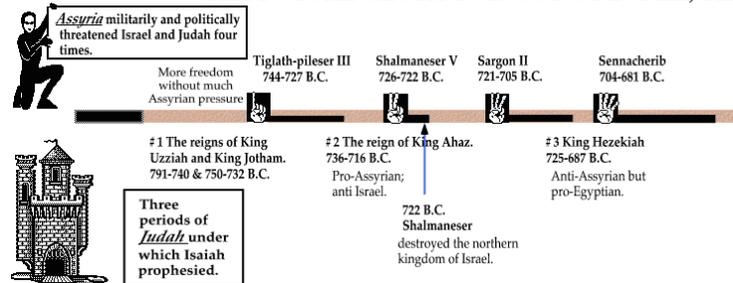
In the tenth year of Nabopolassar (616 BC) the Babylonians defeated the Assyrian army.

Cyrus takes Babylon. In October (539 BC), the Persian king Cyrus took Babylon.

ISAIAH 40:1-66:24

The prophecies of chapters 1-39 addressed Judah in her situation during Isaiah's ministry (739 B.C. until c. 686 B.C.). The prophecies of chapters 40-66 address Judah as though the prophesied Babylonian captivity (Isa 39:5-7) were already a present reality, though that captivity did not begin until 605-586 B.C. The words "'There is no peace,' says the Lord, 'for the wicked'" (Isa 48:22; Isa 57:21) signal the divisions of this section into three parts: chapters 40-48, chapters 49-57, and chapters 58-66.

- I. THE ASSYRIAN PERIOD - CONFLICT AND VICTORY (Isa 1-39)
 - A. PROPHECIES CONCERNING JUDAH AND JERUSALEM (Isa 1-12)
 - B. PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE NATIONS (Isa 13-27)
 - C. DELIVERANCE FOUND NOT IN EGYPT, BUT IN THE LORD (Isa 28-35)
 - D. HISTORICAL INTERLUDE (Isa 36-39)
- II. THE BABYLONIAN PERIOD - HOPE FOR TROUBLED TIMES (Isa 40-66)
 - A. THE ONE TRUE GOD VERSUS IDOLS (Isa 40-48)
 - B. LORD'S SERVANT WILL BRING SALVATION THROUGH SUFFERING (Isa 49-57)
 - C. THE FUTURE GLORY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE, THE NEW ZION (Isa 58-66)



Isaiah – Bible Timeline

739 BC	Isaiah Complains of Zion's Corruption	Isaiah 1 - 5
739 BC	Isaiah's Vision and Commission	Isaiah 6
735 BC	Isaiah's Prophecy of Immanuel	Isaiah 7
734 BC	Uriah/Zechariah Verification	Isaiah 8
730 BC	Isaiah Prophecies a Child Is Born	Isaiah 9
730 BC	Isaiah Prophecies Judgments Upon Israel	Isaiah 9:8
730 BC	Isaiah Prophecies Judgment on Assyria	Isaiah 10
730 BC	Isaiah Prophecies The Root of Jesse	Isaiah 11
730 BC	Isaiah's Joyful Thanksgiving	Isaiah 12
725 BC	Isaiah Prophecies against the Nations	Isaiah 13 - 22
725 BC	Isaiah's Valley of Vision	Isaiah 22
725 BC	Isaiah's Burden of Tyre	Isaiah 23
725 BC	Devastation on the Earth	Isaiah 24
725 BC	Isaiah's Songs of Praise	Isaiah 25 - 27
725 BC	Isaiah's Further Warnings	Isaiah 28 - 32
725 BC	Isaiah Prophecies a King Shall Reign	Isaiah 32
725 BC	Isaiah Declares God's Judgments	Isaiah 33, 34
725 BC	Isaiah Declares the Joyful Will Flourish in Zion	Isaiah 35
712 BC	Hezekiah's Illness and Healing	2 Kings 20, Isaiah 38
711 BC	Hezekiah Shows Treasures	2 Kings 20:12, Isaiah 39
711 BC	Isaiah Prophecies Captivity and Restoration	Isaiah 40 - 66
701 BC	Sennacherib Threatens Jerusalem	2 Kings 18, Isaiah 36, 2 Chron. 32
701 BC	Hezekiah's Prayer	2 Kings 19, Isaiah 37

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

*Fear Not, for I Am with You
Isa 41:1 "Keep silence before Me, O coastlands, And let the people renew their strength! Let them come near, then let them speak; Let us come near together for judgment.*

Isa 41:2 "Who raised up one from the east? Who in righteousness called him to His feet? Who gave the nations before him, And made him rule over kings? Who gave them as the dust to his sword, As driven stubble to his bow?

Isa 41:3 Who pursued them, and passed safely By the way that he had not gone with his feet?

Isa 41:4 Who has performed and done it, Calling the generations from the beginning? 'I, the LORD, am the first; And with the last I am He.' "

v. 1 The glory of God over the coastlands. **Keep silence before Me, O coastlands** (islands or isles, distant idolatrous nations, far reaches of the earth): God is calling to all nations - even the “distant lands” - to **keep silence before Him**. Why? Because they are coming to God’s courtroom: **Let us come near together for judgment. And let the people renew their strength!** Isa 40:31 has just promised that *those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength*. But here, God advises the **people** - those in the distant lands, who do not know Him - to **renew their strength** as they come into His courtroom. If you are going to contest with God, you had better be prepared! The difficulty is that while those who wait upon the LORD have the LORD’s limitless strength, those from distant lands have no god of strength to help them. **Let them come near, then let them speak**: God will allow the idol worshippers of all the world come before Him and justify their idolatry. They will have the opportunity to speak, though they must enter His courtroom in silence, out of respect of His majesty.

vs. 2-3 God questions the idolaters from the distant lands, and asks them who authored this important event in human history - **who raised up the one from the east?** Commentators debate the identity of this **one from the east**. One could point to Abraham, Cyrus or even to Jesus Christ, as the context in some part could and have been fulfilled by all three. It appears that one of the main purposes of this chapter is for God to demonstrate to those believing in false idols, that only He can predict future things as though they have already happened. At the time Isaiah wrote this, Abraham had already come, and Jesus Christ will not come as a man for another 700 plus years. That would then lead us to strongly consider that he is speaking of Cyrus here, who will not be born for another 150-170 years. **Who . . . Who . . . Who**: As God invites those in distant lands to come and reason with Him, He shows them His greatness over all creation, and over all history. They must ask themselves, “Who is in control of the course of human events?” **Who has performed and done it, calling the generations from the beginning?** A relevant question. Is there a point, a direction to human history? Is it just a random, meaningless combination of undirected events? Is it a cycle, fated to repeat itself endlessly? Or, is there a God in heaven who directs human events, always moving to a final resolution and fulfillment? Our answer to this question influences almost everything in our lives.

v. 4 **I, the LORD, am the first; and with the last I am He**: The LORD God of Israel declares that **He has performed and done it, calling the generations from the beginning**. He lifts up and puts down kings and nations. He is **the first** and He is **the last**; (Rev. 1:11, 17). He is both before and after the saga of human history, starting, ending and keeping the whole story together. God is both the **first** and the **last**, also having then, authority over everything in-between, directing all human history and our individual lives. This means that there absolutely is a plan of God for human history.

vs. 1-3 **We see here the instance of God's care for His people Israel in raising up Cyrus to be their deliverer is being insisted upon as a great proof both of His sovereignty above all idols and of His power to protect His people.**

v. 4 **He directs the path of human events toward His designed fulfillment. Our lives are not given over to blind fate, to random meaninglessness, or to endless cycles with no resolution. Instead, the LORD God who is the first and the last directs all of human history and even our individual lives.**

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Isa 41:5 The coastlands saw it and feared, The ends of the earth were afraid; They drew near and came.

Isa 41:6 Everyone helped his neighbor, And said to his brother, "Be of good courage!"

Isa 41:7 So the craftsman encouraged the goldsmith; He who smooths with the hammer inspired him who strikes the anvil, Saying, "It is ready for the soldering"; Then he fastened it with pegs, That it might not totter.

Isa 41:8 "But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, The descendants of Abraham My friend.

Isa 41:9 You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, And called from its farthest regions, And said to you, 'You are My servant, I have chosen you and have not cast you away:

vs. 5-7 The reaction of the coastlands. *The coastlands saw it and feared*: When they met this God of all authority and power, they *feared*. They were brought so low by this encounter with God that they had to encourage one another to go on! *Everyone helped his neighbor, and said to his brother, "Be of good courage!"* This reminds us of the same kind of reaction Peter had when he saw the great power of Jesus ([Luk 5:8](#)). *So the craftsman encouraged the goldsmith*: Notice what did they do with the fear they felt after their encounter with God? They let the fear drive them away from the true God. Instead of surrendering to this God of glory and majesty and power, they turned from God, and made for themselves gods, idols of gold! Isaiah pours on the irony in comparing the worthlessness of idols to the one True and Living God. It took a lot of work to make a good god. It took skilled workers (*the craftsman . . . the goldsmith . . . he who smooths with the hammer . . . him who strikes the anvil*). It took organization and teamwork (“*It is ready for the soldering*”). If you don’t do it right, your god might not be able to stand up! (*That it might not totter.*)

vs. 8-9 Israel is different from those in the distant lands. *But you, Israel, are My servant*: God contrasts Israel (Governed by God) to the God-rejecting and idol-making people in distant lands, *Israel* is the *servant* of the LORD. A *servant* of God would never make God into his own image, his own idea of what God should be. Servants don’t tell their masters what to do, or what to be. Servants know who the master is and who the servant is. *Jacob, whom I have chosen*: To prevent Israel from becoming proud, God deflates their swelling quickly. If they are *Israel* - “Governed by God” - then they are also *Jacob* - “Crafty, untrustworthy con-man.” They are only the *servant* of God because He has *chosen* them. *The descendants of Abraham My friend*: Israel stood in this place because of their *family relationship* to Abraham. Since Abraham was the *friend* of God, so his *descendants* had a special place before God also. Jehoshaphat and James knew that Abraham was the friend of God ([2Ch 20:7](#); [Jas 2:23](#)). We are also the friends of God, not because of our relation to Abraham, but because of our relation to the Son of God, Jesus. *You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. (Joh 15:14-15) You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth . . . And said to you, "You are my servant, I have chosen you and have not cast you away"*: Israel’s special place before God is because of God’s initiative and choosing, not because of anything good in Israel or in anything that they had done.

vs. 5-7 People still see something of God’s power and glory, reject it, and then make their own god/s. This [Rom 1:21-23](#). [21] *For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. [22] Claiming to be wise, they became fools, [23] and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.*

vs. 8-9 The relationship, a servant, but chosen of God. That’s where we are tonight. Servants who have been chosen by God, for this glorious relationship that we have with Him! God chose you to have this special relationship with Him! Israel, like every believer, is different from the idol-makers in distant lands because of God’s work in them, not because of their own greatness.

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Isa 41:10 *Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'*

Isa 41:11 *"Behold, all those who were incensed against you Shall be ashamed and disgraced; They shall be as nothing, And those who strive with you shall perish.*

Isa 41:12 *You shall seek them and not find them—Those who contended with you. Those who war against you Shall be as nothing, As a nonexistent thing.*

Isa 41:13 *For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, Saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you.'*

Isa 41:14 *"Fear not, you worm Jacob, You men of Israel! I will help you," says the LORD And your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.*

Isa 41:15 *"Behold, I will make you into a new threshing sledge with sharp teeth; You shall thresh the mountains and beat them small, And make the hills like chaff.*

Isa 41:16 *You shall winnow them, the wind shall carry them away, And the whirlwind shall scatter them; You shall rejoice in the LORD, And glory in the Holy One of Israel.*

vs. 10-13 Fear not, for God's help is present. *Fear not, for I am with you*: Both a command and a promise. Israel is commanded to *fear not*. Fear, worry, and anxiety are often sin. When the God who rules over the nations, the God who chose us and loves us as described in previous verses, when that God tell us *fear not*, we must take it seriously! But there is also a promise. We *fear not*, because the LORD has told us, *I am with you*. What more do we need? *If God is for us, who can be against us?* (**Rom 8:31**) *Be not dismayed* (bewildered), *for I am your God*: "Remember Me? The God of all power and glory? I'm that one. *I am your God*. When people forget the greatness of God, they easily become *dismayed*. But God says, *be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand*: God's *strength* and *glory* make Him able to help us. But it is His *love* that makes Him say, "*I will help you.*" Idols must be *fastened . . . with pegs*, so they might not totter (**Isa 41:7**). But *I will uphold you with My righteous right hand*. You have to hold *them* up. But God holds *us* up; You should never have a God that you have to hold up! Knowing this, do we see the terrible nature of our fear and unbelief? They say to God, "You are not with me. You are not the God of glory and might. You do not really love me. *Behold, all those who were incensed against you shall be ashamed and disgraced*: God will deal with our enemies, if we keep our trust in Him. He knows how to make our adversaries - whether they be men or devils - *ashamed and disgraced*. *Behold, all those who were incensed against you shall be ashamed and disgraced* is, in part, an outworking of God's promise to Abraham in **Gen 12:3** : *I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you*. God has always crushed anti-Semitic nations and movements, and in the reign of the Messiah, He will crush them completely. *For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, "Fear not, I will help you."* In **Isa 41:10**, God promised to *uphold you with My righteous right hand*. That was God's hand holding us up. Now, we see God's hand holding our *right hand*, and *giving us strength over fear, doubt, and our adversaries*.

vs. 14-16 Fear not, with God's help, no obstacle is too great. *Fear not, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel!* The idea of a *worm* is connected to the name *Jacob*, but the idea of *men* is connected with the name *Israel*. The name *Jacob*, as applied to Israel here, seems to points back to Israel's lowly and deceitful past. It is by no means an honorable reference. *And your Redeemer (goel): Redeemer* is the Next-of-Kin who takes upon himself his people's needs as if they were his own. *Behold, I will make you into a new threshing sledge with sharp teeth; you shall thresh the mountains and beat them small*: God so helps Israel, so empowers them, that they are able to cut down mountains as if they were a great *threshing* machine, removing mountains and seeing their dust blown away. The point is that nothing, not even a mountain, will stand in their way when God *helps* them. Only the Creator Himself who can take a weak worm and make it sharp with teeth! God can do that. Jesus expressed the same idea in **Mat 17:20** : *If you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. You shall rejoice in the LORD, and glory in the Holy One of Israel*: When we overcome great obstacles with the help of the LORD, we know it is His work. We *rejoice in the LORD*, not in ourselves. We *glory in the Holy One of Israel*, not in ourselves.

vs. 10-13 How much more prone to fear and discouragement we are when we are alone. But we are never alone, because God has declared, *fear not, for I am with you*. Though at times, forgetting God, we become *dismayed*, **He says, be not dismayed! For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, "Fear not, I will help you."** In **v. 10** God promised to *uphold you with My righteous right hand*. That was God's hand holding us up. Now **we see God's hand holding our right hand**, and **giving us strength over fear, doubt, and our adversaries**.

vs. 14-16 We need to remember what is happening here, as it has direct application to us believers. We are not to fear because with God's help, no obstacle is too great for us!

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Isa 41:17 "The poor and needy seek water, but there is none, Their tongues fail for thirst. I, the LORD, will hear them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them.

Isa 41:18 I will open rivers in desolate heights, And fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will set the wilderness a pool of water, And the dry land springs of water.

Isa 41:19 I will plant in the wilderness the cedar and the acacia tree, The myrtle and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the cypress tree and the pine And the box tree together,

Isa 41:20 That they may see and know, And consider and understand together, That the hand of the LORD has done this, And the Holy One of Israel has created it.

The Futility of Idols

Isa 41:21 "Present your case," says the LORD. "Bring forth your strong reasons," says the King of Jacob.

vs. 17-20 Fear not, God has abundant resources. *I will open rivers in desolate heights:* In response to the cry of the *poor and needy*, those whose *tongues fail from thirst*, God sends miraculous supplies of water to them. God has resources and supplies we know nothing about, and He loves to supply us from His hidden resources. *I will plant in the wilderness the cedar and the acacia tree:* God will also make barren places fruitful, and full of beautiful forests. God can take the most barren *wilderness*, and make it a forest. It is known that water and shade are the two great needs of anyone in the desert. None of the trees mentioned are fruit trees, pointing to the shade/shelter and not to nourishment. When it all takes place, everyone knows: *That the hand of the LORD has done this, and the Holy One of Israel has created it.* Miraculous supplies of water and forests in the wilderness are impossible without God, so He gets the glory when the work is done.

v. 21 God calls idols and their worshippers to trial. *Present your case:* God is fair. He will not condemn idols, the false gods of the nations, and those who worship them, without a fair trial. So He invites these idols and their worshippers to come and *present your case*. “Let’s hear your side of the story.” *Bring forth your strong reasons.* “Let’s hear your best arguments.” *Says the King of Jacob:* This is the only place in the Bible where God uses this title. *King of Jacob* is used only here, but the title *king of Israel* is used 138 times in the Bible, mostly of men, but of the Lord GOD in [Isa 44:6](#) and [Zep 3:15](#), and of Jesus in [Joh 1:49](#); [Joh 12:13](#).

vs. 17-20 When My people feel parched to the bone, worn out, I will not forsake them! I’ll open rivers in the high places and fountains in the valleys – that’s opposite normal! Notice there is no restriction to the way He brings refreshment when His people cry out to Him! That you may see and know and consider and understand together, that the hand of the LORD has done this and the Holy One of Israel has created it! What promises for you and for me!

v. 21 God is calling to the nations pursuing idols. He says present your case! Bring for your strong reasons. The false gods are called upon to come forth and appear in person; and to give evident demonstration of their foreknowledge and power by foretelling future events, and exerting their power in doing good or evil. How thankful we should be for our God, who is living, powerful and knows the end from the beginning!

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Isa 41:22 "Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; Let them show the former things, what they were, That we may consider them, And know the latter end of them; Or declare to us things to come.

Isa 41:23 Show the things that are to come hereafter, That we may know that you are gods; Yes, do good or do evil, That we may be dismayed and see it together.

Isa 41:24 Indeed you are nothing, And your work is nothing; He who chooses you is an abomination.

Isa 41:25 "I have raised up one from the north, And he shall come; From the rising of the sun he shall call on My name; And he shall come against princes as though mortar, As the potter treads clay.

Isa 41:26 Who has declared from the beginning, that we may know? And former times, that we may say, 'He is righteous'? Surely there is no one who shows, Surely there is no one who declares, Surely there is no one who hears your words.

Isa 41:27 The first time I said to Zion, 'Look, there they are!' And I will give to Jerusalem one who brings good tidings.

Isa 41:28 For I looked, and there was no man; I looked among them, but there was no counselor, Who, when I asked of them, could answer a word.

Isa 41:29 Indeed they are all worthless; Their works are nothing; Their molded images are wind and confusion.

vs. 22-24 God examines the defendants - idols and their worshippers - at the trial. God invited idols to *present your case* in [Isa 41:21](#). But none is presented; the next words are God's questioning of the idols. Why don't the idols present their case and defend themselves? Because they are dumb statues that can't speak! So the questioning moves on, and God examines the defendants. *Let them bring forth and show us what will happen*: If these idols really are gods, then they certainly know the future and the past. Then let them speak up. *Show us what will happen*. Then, *let them show the former things, what they were*. Gods know these things, don't they? Do it *that we may know that you are gods. Yes, do good or do evil*: It is as if God stands in a courtroom, questioning a thousand idols of different sizes and designs, and finally cries out, "Do something! Do good or do evil! Can't you do anything?" But they can't do anything. The accusation is made based upon the evidence: *Indeed, you are nothing, and your work is nothing; he who chooses you is an abomination. Indeed, you are nothing, and your work is nothing*: Paul quotes this idea in [1Co 8:4](#), when he writes, *Therefore concerning the eating of things offered to idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one.*

vs. 25-29 God here produces proofs that He is the true God, and that there is none besides him. Let him produce his strong reasons.

The LORD's summation: Idols are worthless, and man is so limited. *I have raised up one from the north, and he shall come*: In contrast to the idols who can tell nothing of the future, the LORD knows. He knows that He will bring Cyrus from the north to conquer the Babylonians, who conquered Judah and Jerusalem and took them captive. God would use Cyrus to allow the Jews in exile to return (Ezra 1). Cyrus had the greatest respect for Jehovah. In his proclamation freeing of Israel in Ezra chapter one. In it he states correctly that Jehovah had given him all the kingdoms of the earth. *Who has declared from the beginning, that we may know?* Not the idols; they know nothing. Not man, for *I looked, and there was no man.... Who, when I asked of them, could answer a word.*

It is God and God alone who knows the beginning and the end!

Isa 41:14 "Fear not, you worm Jacob, You men of Israel! I will help you," says the LORD And your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

Rev 1:17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

Rev 22:12-13 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. [13] I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

vs. 22-24 The LORD is asking, are your idols outs of the time-space continuum, who knows what was, what is and what thing are to come! Today, idolatry is still an abomination. Though few bow down to statues, many still fashion a god of their own opinion, and decide that is the god they will respect. The world is still making every effort to worship of the creature rather than the Creator. To these Gentiles with their idols, God says to let your idols predict the future or even the past. Then you'll see if they are truly gods. Between one-fourth and one-third of the Bible is prophetic, describing future events, such a thing that no other holy book dares to do, God proves His own superiority by the fact that He can do what idols could never do! How thankful are we for our awesome God?

v. 25-29 The verdict is read at the trial: *Indeed, they are all worthless; their works are nothing. Apart from God, in the grand scheme of things, all of the greatness of man is worthless and all the great works are nothing. And what of the idols? Their molded images are wind and confusion.* We see here idols are capable of producing nothing more than hot air. Even that could only be attained by burning them!

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Chapter 41 could be called one of the great *I WILL* chapters of the Bible. Fourteen times in the scope of these verses does God reinforce His authority with the promise, ‘*I will.*’

- *I will strengthen you. (Isa 41:10)*
 - *I will help you. (Isa 41:10; Isa 41:13-14)*
 - *I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. (Isa 41:10)*
 - *I will make you into a new threshing sledge with sharp teeth. (Isa 41:15)*
 - *I will open rivers in desolate heights. (Isa 41:18)*
 - *I will make the wilderness a pool of water. (Isa 41:18)*
 - *I will plant in the wilderness the cedar and the acacia tree. (Isa 41:19)*
 - *I will set in the desert the cypress tree. (Isa 41:19)*
 - *I will give to Jerusalem one who brings good tidings. (Isa 41:27)*
- ii. *What a contrast with Isaiah 14 - the “I will” chapter of Satan! Look at the “I wills” of Satan:*
- *I will ascend into heaven. (Isa 14:13)*
 - *I will exalt my throne above the stars of God. (Isa 14:13)*
 - *I will also sit on the mount of the congregation. (Isa 14:13)*
 - *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds. (Isa 14:14)*
 - *I will be like the Most High. (Isa 14:14)*

We need to be aware that everyone of Satan’s “I wills” were all proud and self-directed. Every “*I will*” of the LORD in Isaiah 41 is for the benefit and blessing of His people. Though Satan was lifted up in pride, and proclaimed his “I wills,” none of them came to pass.

But each and every one of God’s “I will’s” will happen! When God says, ‘I will,’ He says it with all the authority of omnipotence. He has foreseen every difficulty. He has studied every obstacle which may come in His way. He has anticipated every possible contingency. **He knows the weakness of the one to whom He makes His promise, and yet He says, ‘I will!’**

Is. 14:14 ...you worm (tola) Jacob

THE CRIMSON OR SCARLET WORM

TOLA’ATH, which means “Crimson worm” or “Scarlet worm”. Both scarlet and crimson are the colors of blood – deep red. The Crimson worm [*coccus ilicis*] is a very special worm that looks more like a grub than a worm. When it is time for the female or mother Crimson worm to have babies (which she does only one time in her life), she finds the trunk of a tree, a wooden fencepost or a stick. She then attaches her body to that wood and makes a hard crimson shell. She is so strongly and permanently stuck to the wood that the shell can never be removed without tearing her body completely apart and killing her. The Crimson worm then lays her eggs under her body and the protective shell. When the baby worms (or larvae) hatch, they stay under the shell. Not only does the mother’s body give protection for her babies, but it also provides them with food – the babies feed on the LIVING body of the mother! After just a few days, when the young worms grow to the point that they can take care of themselves, the mother dies. As the mother Crimson worm dies, she oozes a crimson or scarlet red dye which not only stains the wood she is attached to, but also her young children. They are colored scarlet red for the rest of their lives. After three days, the dead mother Crimson worm’s body loses its crimson color and turns into a white wax which falls to the ground like snow. So, what did Jesus mean by saying “I am a worm”? There are a lot of ideas what Jesus might have meant, but nobody really knows for sure. However, it is very interesting that, just like the Crimson worm, Jesus sacrificed or gave up his life on a tree so that his children might be washed with his crimson blood and their sins cleaned white as snow. He died for us, that we might live through him! ***“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”*** Isaiah 1:18