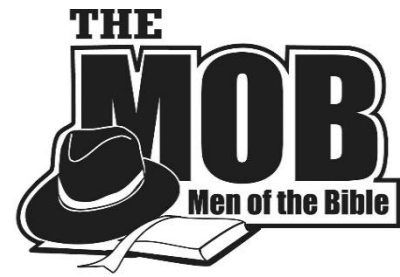


WELCOME TO THE MOB!

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)

Welcome To The MOB!



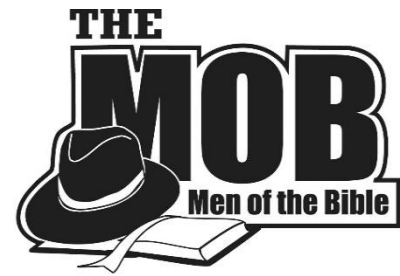
- MOB Website & Resources: www.ibcmob.net
- *Assist Pregnancy Center's Fundraising Vision Dinner,*
Friday, Oct. 13, 2023, 6:30-9:00 PM, Fairview Park Marriott
- *Christian Embassy Fellowship Dinner Fundraiser,*
Friday, Oct. 20, 2023, 6:30-8:30 PM, Fairview Park Marriott
- IBC Fall Outreach Festival Oct. 28, 1-4 PM
 - <https://immanuelbible.church/visit/fall-outreach-fest>

Please Rise

- **Invocation/Prayer**
- **Song: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 of 4

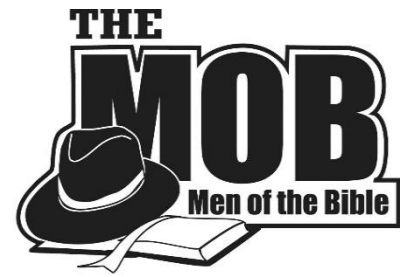


**A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing:**

**For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

2 of 4



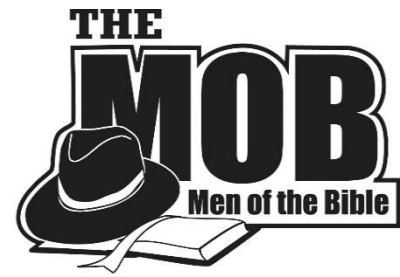
**Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would
be losing,**

**Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's
own choosing:**

**Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

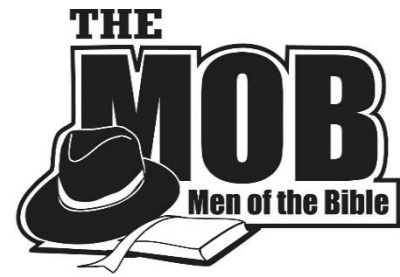
3 of 4



**And though this world, with devils filled, should
threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to
triumph through us;
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

4 of 4



**That word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them,
abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with
us sideth;
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.**

Our Study of Isaiah

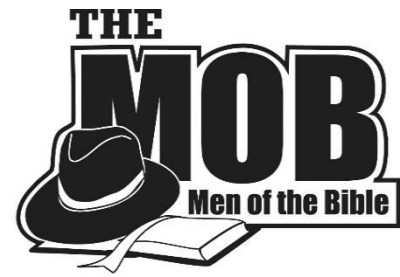
Last Meeting:

- Isaiah 41:1-20
- Memory Verse: Isaiah 41:10
- *Dr. Constable's Notes, 2023 Ed., pp.272-279; Motyer, pp.308-312.*
- Refreshment Host: C

This Meeting:

- Isaiah 41:21-29
- Memory Verse: 41:23-24
- *Dr. Constable's Notes, 2023 Ed., pp.279-281; Motyer, pp.312-318.*
- Refreshment Host: D

Memory Verse



Isaiah 41:23-24 (ESV)

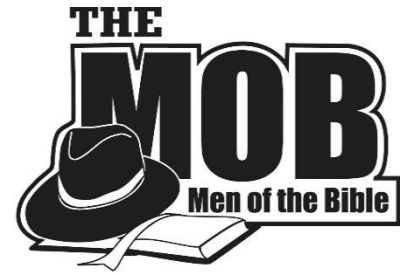
**²³ Tell us what is to come hereafter,
that we may know that you are gods;
do good, or do harm,
that we may be dismayed and terrified.**

**²⁴ Behold, you are nothing,
and your work is less than nothing;
an abomination is he who chooses you.**

Isaiah 41:23-24 (ESV)




Isaiah Outline



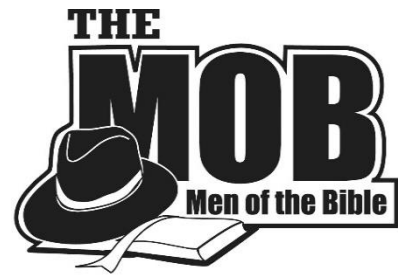
Focus	Prophecies of Condemnation								Historical Parenthesis				Prophecies of Comfort							
	1:1		35:10						36:1		39:8		40:1		66:24					
Divisions	Prophecies Against Judah		Prophecies Against the Nation		Prophecies Against the Day of the Lord		Prophecies of Judgement and Blessing		Sickness and Sin		Hezekiah's Salvation		Israel's Deliverance		Israel's Deliverer		Israel's Glorious Future			
													40:1							
Topics	Prophetic Judgement								Historic Transition				Messianic Hope							
Place	Israel & Judah								You Are Here!											
Time	740 - 680 B.C.																			

Review

Book of Salvation (Chap. 40-66):

- **Ch. 40-48: God's Grace To Israel** 
 - King Cyrus delivers Israel from Babylonian captivity.
- **Ch. 49-55: God's Atonement**
 - The rejection and restoration of the Suffering Servant, the deliverer.
- **Ch. 56-66: A Glorious Future**
 - God's restoration and transformation of Israel and the world.

How To Interpret Scripture The Immanuel Way



- **Normal** - understanding the words of Scripture in their common usage unless otherwise indicated by the context.
- **Literal** - understanding the meaning of Scripture in its ordinary sense unless the context requires a figurative interpretation.
- **Grammatical** - using the recognized rules of grammar to interpret the text.
- **Historical** - understanding the words of Scripture in the context of the times in which they were written.
- **Systematic** - categorizing and comparing the teaching of the Scriptures with the whole of Scripture in view.

Main gods of Assyria, Babylon & Medo-Persia



Assyria - Ashur



Babylon - Marduk



**Medo-Persian
Ahura Mazda**

On The Nature of Pagan gods

- The gods of antiquity were pagan...living in a closed universe.
- For the pagan gods:
 - Everything that exists is part of everything else.
 - Thus humanity, nature, and deity are all inseparable from one another.
 - The cosmos is eternal...There is no beginning or ending of the universe
 - What is, always has been and what has been, always will be.
 - In the cycle of existence there is no beginning and no end and nothing ever changes.
 - To predict the future just look to the past.
 - The gods are absolutely helpless to tell us how the world began or how it will end.

On The Nature of The GOD

- YAHWEH is:
 - Self existent.
 - Unchanging in His being.
 - Completely outside of His creation.
 - Therefore...He can supernaturally reach into his creation to exercise His will.

“A high view of God will lead us to lofty worship of Him. A growing understanding of His character will lead to holy and righteous living in the pursuit of His will. Conversely, a low view of God will lead to diminished praise of Him. Inevitably, base views of Him will lead to low and empty living.”

- Dr. Steve Lawson, “Show Me Your Glory”



**21 “Present your case,” the Lord says.
“Bring forward your evidence,” The King of Jacob says.**

**22 Let them bring them forward and declare to us what is going to take place;
As for the former events, declare what they were,
So that we may consider them and know their outcome.**

Or announce to us what is coming;

23 Declare the things that are going to come afterward,

**So that we may know that you are gods;
Indeed, do good or evil, that we may be afraid and fear together.**

**24 Behold, you are less than nothing,
And your work is less than nothing!
He who chooses you is an abomination.**

25 “I have put one from the north into motion, and he has come;

**From the rising of the sun he will call on My name;
And he will come upon rulers as upon mortar,
As the potter treads on clay.”**

**26 Who has declared *this* from the beginning,
that we might know?**

Or from former times, that we may say, “*He is right!*”?

**There was no one at all who declared,
There was no one at all who proclaimed,
There was no one at all who heard your words.**

27 “Previously *I said* to Zion, ‘Behold, here they are.’

And to Jerusalem, ‘I will give a messenger of good news.’

**28 But when I look, there is no one,
And there is no counselor among them
Who, if I ask, can give an answer.**

**29 Behold, all of them are false;
Their works are nothing,**

Isaiah 41:21

**21 “Present your case,” the Lord says.
“Bring forward your evidence,” The King of Jacob says.**

- Isaiah 41:6-7...God announces that Cyrus is on his way. The people respond by building idols.
- The Trial against those idols begins.
- “The Lord here humbly descends into a sort of ‘identity parade’ of competing gods in order that the true may be isolated from the spurious.” - J. A. Motyer

Isaiah 41:22-23

**22 Let them bring them forward and declare
to us what is going to take place;
As for the former events, declare what they
were,
So that we may consider them and know
their outcome.**

**Or announce to us what is coming;
23 Declare the things that are going to come
afterward,
So that we may know that you are gods;
Indeed, do good or evil, that we may be
afraid and fear together.**

- Idolators! Bring your gods forward!
- God is asking for proof that they are independent of the whims of the cosmos.
- These gods are not transcendent. They are part of the cosmos and therefore unable to do anything supernaturally.
- Do something...Yahweh says. They cannot!

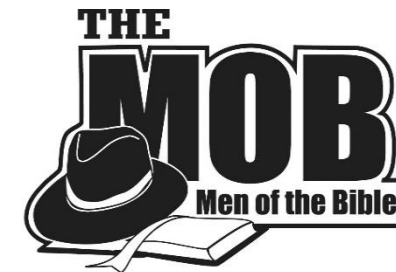
Isaiah 41:24

**24 Behold, you are less
than nothing,
And your work is less
than nothing!
He who chooses you is
an abomination.**

- The idols are silent!
- Yahweh has already passed judgement!
- Yahweh is stating the obvious. These idols/gods are nothing!
- And...if you made such an idol and choose to put your faith in that idol, then you are an abomination!
- Choose wisely...Joshua 24:15



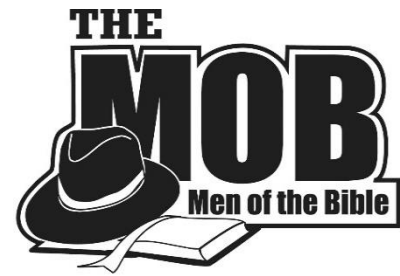
Isaiah 41:25



**25 “I have put one from the north into motion, and he has come; From the rising of the sun he will call on My name;
And he will come upon rulers as upon mortar,
As the potter treads on clay.”**

- Yahweh demonstrates that He is in control of the future.
- He has called Cyrus into motion.
- Yahweh is doing what the pagan idols/gods cannot and could not do.
- Yahweh is demonstrating that He is outside His creation and acts supernaturally in his creation.
- Yahweh can “suspend the rules of the cosmos” in order to exercise His will.

Isaiah 41:26



**26 Who has declared *this* from the beginning, that we might know?
Or from former times, that we may say, “*He is right!*”?
There was no one at all who declared,
There was no one at all who proclaimed,
There was no one at all who**

- “The Lord is awarded the verdict, his case being clinched by evidence of predictive power.” - J. A. Motyer
- “For Isaiah, any interpretation of history has to have the possibility of verification...Not one whisper of Cyrus’s coming has been made by the gods or heard by one of their adherents.” - John N. Oswalt

Isaiah 41:27-28

27 “Previously *I said* to Zion, ‘Behold, here they are.’

And to Jerusalem, ‘I will give a messenger of good news.’

28 But when I look, there is no one, And there is no counselor among

- “Which of the gods is able to explain the world to God? Which one can explain the direction of history? The answer is plain: none—He is unique.”

- John N. Oswalt

- “The force of the verse is, then, that the Gentile world is without a sure voice coming from outside, without a veritable revelation of God.” - J. A. Motyer

Isaiah 41:29

**29 Behold, all of them
are false;
Their works are nothing,
Their cast metal images
are wind and emptiness.**

- Remember Isaiah 41:6-7?
- Those idols fashioned by the people in response to the news that Cyrus was on his way...“Are wind and emptiness”.
- “It is only a God who is totally other than this world...who can explain to us why he created the world and who can be free enough from it to direct and redirect its progress so as to deliver it from itself.

- John Oswalt

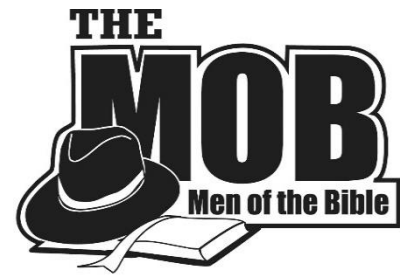
Job



Summary

- **God Is Sovereign!**
- **God Is Our Mighty Fortress!**
- **There is NO One Like Him!**
- **How Big Is Your God?**

Next Meeting



Review:

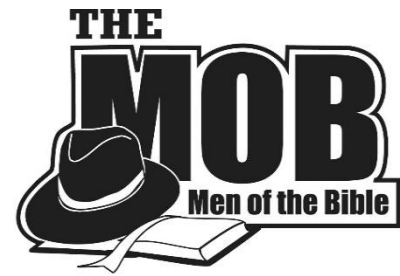
- **Isaiah 41:21-29**
- **Memory Verse: Isaiah 41:23-24**
- ***Dr. Constable's Notes, 2023 Ed., pp. 279-281; Motyer, pp.312-318***

Study:

- **Isaiah 42:1-17**
- **Memory Verse: Isaiah 42:8**
- ***Dr. Constable's Notes, 2023 Ed., pp. 281-289; Motyer, pp.318-325***
- **Refreshment Host: E**

Questions & Application

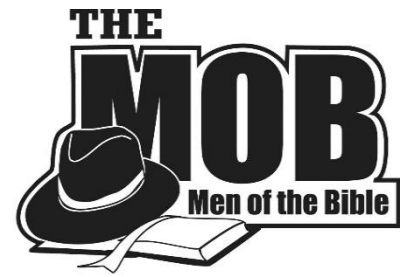
Lowell's Questions



- In what way does this passage continue to present a picture of a courtroom scene?
- What's the essence of the case Isaiah makes here for worshiping Yahweh, as opposed to other objects of worship?
- Who is the “one from the north” that God said He would “arouse”? And how does this one relate to the one He aroused (or would arouse) “from the east,” cited in verse 2?
- In what sense is the one who chooses an idol “an abomination”—and what is his “plight”?
- What specific prophecy was eventually fulfilled by God that no one else, other than Yahweh, could have predicted, and made happen? What's so significant about it, and can you cite the reference?

Questions & Application

Lowell's Questions

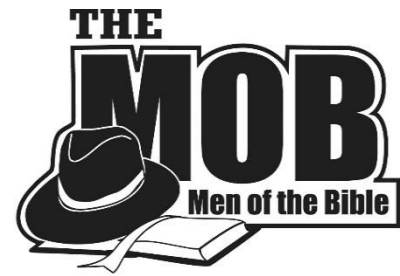


- How does this passage support the statement attributed to the noted Bible expositor A.T. Pierson that “history is all about His story”?
- What are other examples from Scripture, other than that of Cyrus, of how God used unbelieving world leaders to accomplish His purpose?
- What does this passage teach us about “the world,” and about God?
- What key idea will you take away from this lesson?

Closing

- **Benediction**
- **Small Groups**

Isaiah Bible Study Schedule for Fall 2023 – Spring 2024



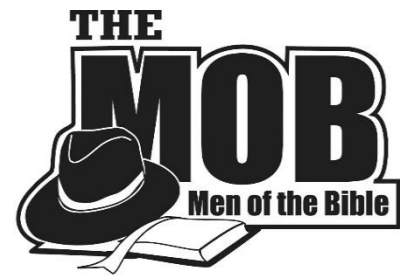
as of September 5, 2023

#	DATE	CHAPTERS	CONSTABLE	MOTYER	MEM VERSE	HOST GRP
1	5-Sep	INTRO	255-486	498-544	-	IBC
2	12-Sep	40:1-20	255-267	498-305	40:8	A
3	19-Sep	40:21-31	267-272	305-308	40:31	B
4	26-Sep	41:1-20	272-279	308-312	41:10	C
5	3-Oct	41:21-29	279-281	312-318	41:23-24	D
6	10-Oct	42:1-17	281-289	318-325	42:8	E
7	17-Oct	42:18-25	289-290	326-330	42:20	F
8	24-Oct	43	290-298	330-341	43:10	G
9	31-Oct	44	298-310	341-356	44:6	H
10	7-Nov	45	310-319	356-367	45:8	A
11	14-Nov	46	319-322	367-371	46:9-10	B
	21-Nov	THANKSGIVING BREAK				



Isaiah Bible Study Schedule for Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

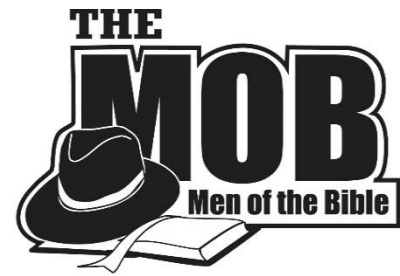
as of September 5, 2023



#	DATE	CHAPTERS	CONSTABLE	MOTYER	MEM VERSE	HOST GRP
	21-Nov	THANKSGIVING BREAK				
12	28-Nov	47	322-328	371-375	47:10	C
13	5-Dec	48	328-335	375-382	48:10-11	D
14	12-Dec	49	335-348	383-396	49:13	E
	19-Dec	CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS' BREAK				
	26-Dec					
15	2-Jan	50	348-355	396-401	50:4	F
16	9-Jan	51	355-363	402-415	51:11	G
17	16-Jan	52:1-10	363-367	415-420	52:7	H
18	23-Jan	52:11-15	367-372	420-426	52:15	A
19	30-Jan	53:1-6	372-380	426-431	53:3-4	B



Isaiah Bible Study Schedule for Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

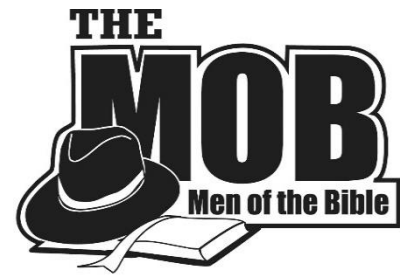


as of September 5, 2023

#	DATE	CHAPTERS	CONSTABLE	MOTYER	MEM VERSE	HOST GRP
20	6-Feb	53:7-12	380-386	432-443	53:11	C
21	13-Feb	54	386-394	443-452	54:10	D
22	20-Feb	55	394-401	452-458	55:3	E
23	27-Feb	56	401-408	459-469	56:7	F
24	5-Mar	57	408-415	469-478	57:20	G
25	12-Mar	58	415-421	478-484	58:5	H
26	19-Mar	59	421-428	484-493	59:1-2	A
27	26-Mar	60	428-435	493-499	60:12	B
	2-Apr	EASTER BREAK				



Isaiah Bible Study Schedule for Fall 2023 – Spring 2024



as of September 5, 2023

#	DATE	CHAPTERS	CONSTABLE	MOTYER	MEM VERSE	HOST GRP
	2-Apr	EASTER BREAK				
28	9-Apr	61	435-440	499-505	61:1-2	C
29	16-Apr	62	440-443	505-509	62:4	D
30	23-Apr	63	443-453	509-518	63:7	E
31	30-Apr	64	453-455	518-522	64:4	F
32	7-May	65	455-466	522-531	65:1	G
33	14-May	66	466-475	531-544	66:1	H
34	21-May	Review	255-486	498-544	53:6	A
	28-May	MAKE-UP SESSION IF NEEDED				