

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)



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Announcements



- **MOB Website & Resources: www.ibcmob.net**
- **Welcome to Immanuel Christian School!**
- <https://immanuelbible.church/>
 - [\(943\) Croc's Corner - YouTube](#)



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Please Rise



■ **Invocation/Prayer.**

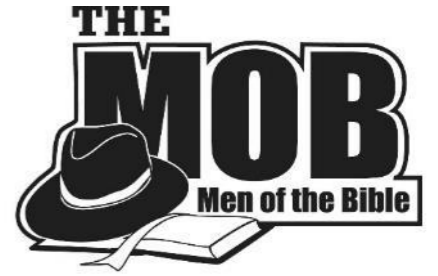
■ **Song:**

“Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise”



Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

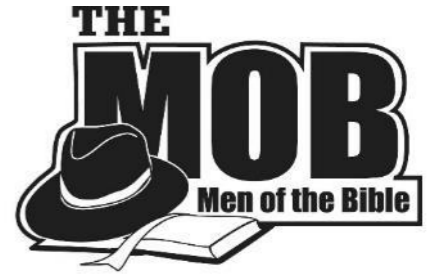
Verse 1 of 5



Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

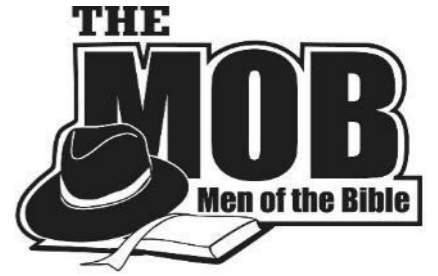
Verse 2 of 5



Unresting, unhasting,
and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might:
Thy justice, like mountains
high soaring above;
Thy clouds, which are fountains
of goodness and love.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

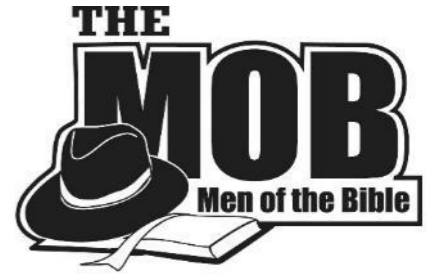
Verse 3 of 5



To all, life Thou givest,
to both great and small.
In all life Thou livest,
the True Life of all.
We blossom and flourish
like leaves on the tree,
Then wither and perish;
but naught changeth Thee.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Verse 4 of 5

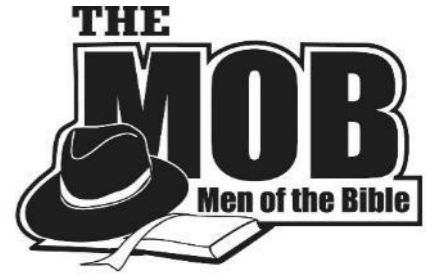


Great Father of Glory,
pure Father of Light.
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight.
All laud we would render,
O help us to see:
'Tis only the splendor
of light hideth Thee!



Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Verse 5 of 5



Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.



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Our Study of Isaiah



- **Last Meeting:**
 - **Isaiah 43, Called By His Name**
 - **Memory Verse: Isaiah 43:10**
 - ***Dr. Constable's Notes, 2023 Ed.*, pp. 290-298; *Motyer*, pp. 330-341.**

- **This Meeting:**
 - **Isaiah 44, The Blessings of Israel and the Folly of Idolatry**
 - **Memory Verse: Isaiah 44:6**
 - ***Dr. Constable's Notes, 2023 Ed.*, pp. 298-310; *Motyer*, pp. 341-356**
 - **Refreshment Host: Group H**



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Memory Verse



Isaiah 44:6 (ESV)

“Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.””

Isaiah 44:6 (ESV)



NT References of Isaiah 44



Isaiah 44:6 (ESV)

⁶ “Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

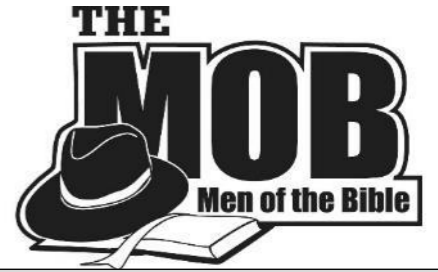
“I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.”

Book	Isaiah 44	
Isaiah Verse	NT	Type
<input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah 44:3	<input type="checkbox"/> John 7:38	Allusion
<input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah 44:6	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 1:17	Allusion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 2:8	Allusion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 21:6	Allusion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 22:13	Allusion
<input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah 44:10–17	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 17:29	Allusion
<input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah 44:25	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 1:20	Allusion
<input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah 44:27	<input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 16:12	Allusion
<input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah 44:28	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 13:22	Echo



Isaiah Outline

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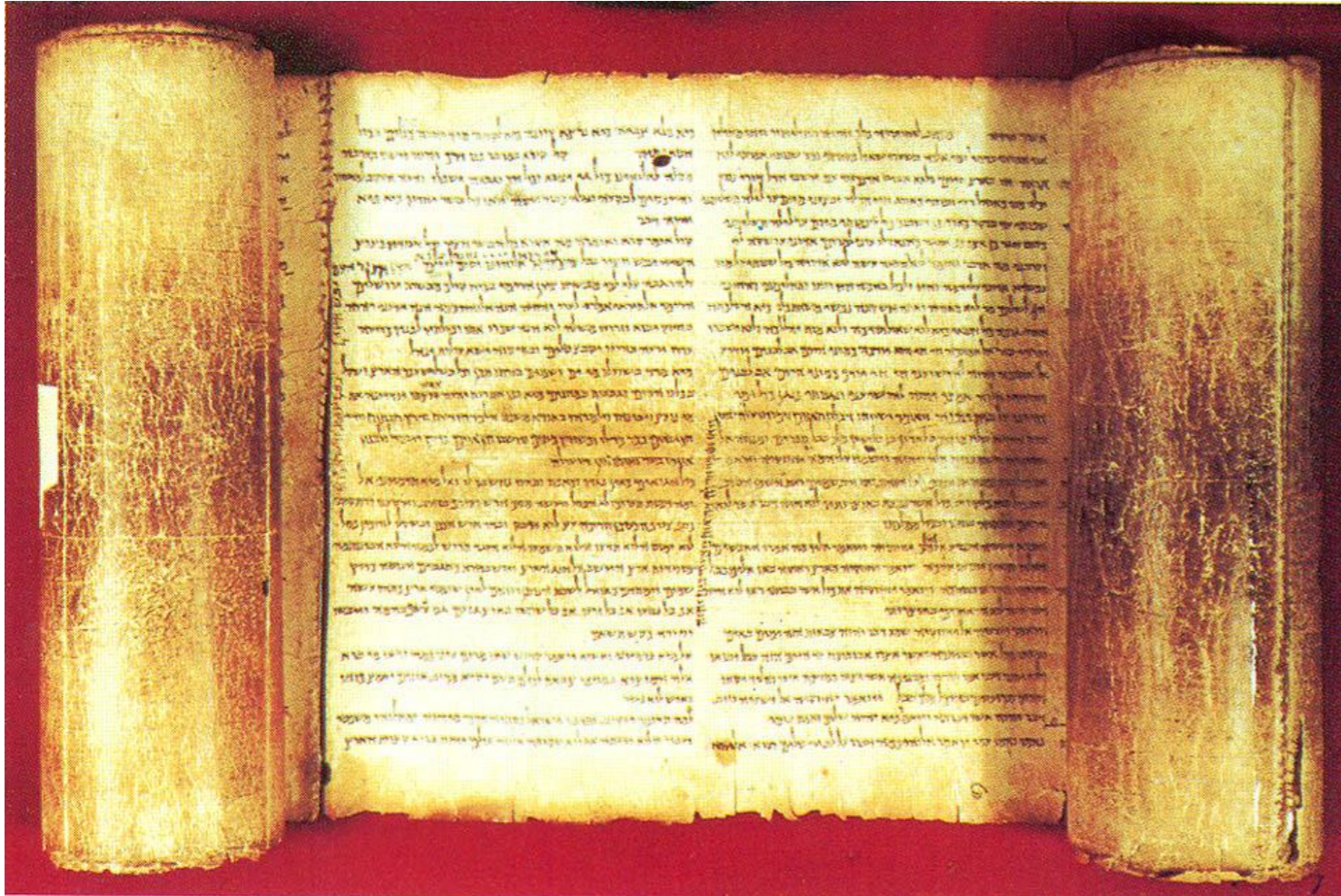


Focus	Prophecies of Condemnation								Historical Parenthesis		Prophecies of Comfort					
	1:1		35:10						36:1	39:8	40:1		66:24			
Divisions	Prophecies Against Judah		Prophecies Against the Nation		Prophecies Against the Day of the Lord		Prophecies of Judgement and Blessing		Sickness and Sin	Hezekiah's Salvation	Israel's Deliverance		Israel's Deliverer		Israel's Glorious Future	
Topics	1:1	12:6	13:1	23:18	24:1	27:13	28:1	35:10	36:1	39:8	40:1	48:22	49:1	57:21	58:1	66:24
	Prophetic Judgement								Historic Transition		Messianic Hope					
Place	Israel & Judah								We are here!							
Time	740 - 680 B.C.															



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Theme – from Constable's notes (another pivot)



- Judgment was not Yahweh's final word to His people. This new word would be good news in contrast to what had immediately preceded (cf. 43:28)

Isaiah 43:22–28 (NASB 95)

The Shortcomings of Israel

- 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.
- 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.

Quite an
indictment on
both Israel and
Jacob from the
previous chapter!



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Isaiah 44



- The Blessings of Israel (vv. 1 – 8)
- The Folly of Idolatry (vv. 9 – 20)
- God Forgives and Redeems (vv. 21 – 28)

Isaiah 44:1–8 (NASB 95)

The Blessings of Israel

¹ “But now listen, O Jacob, My servant,
And Israel, whom I have chosen:
² Thus 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.
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.’
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.

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.’ ”



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The past forgotten, the future blessed



- Isaiah leaps straight from the God burdened by his people's sins (43:24) to the God who blots them out. No connecting word in human vocabulary can bring these two realities together. Only God knows how holiness and pardon co-exist in the divine nature. The poem offers no explanation, only a statement that wrath (43:28) is replaced by blessing (44:3).



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Isaiah 44:1 – 3



- ¹ “But now listen, O Jacob, My servant,
And Israel, whom I have chosen:
- ² Thus 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.
- 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;

- A parallel to Ch 43:1-7
 - The parallel section opened with the word *w^eattâ* (‘now then’), and the same word opens verse 1.
- Jeshurun
 - Poetic name for Israel, both as a people and a place
 - Deut 32:15; 33:5, 26; Isa 44:2
 - Chosen – *perfect tense (completed)*



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Divine Grace



Jeremiah 31:34

³⁴ They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the Lord, “for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

Micah 7:18-19

¹⁸ Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity
And passes over the rebellious act of the
remnant of His possession?
He does not retain His anger forever,
Because He delights in **unchanging love.**

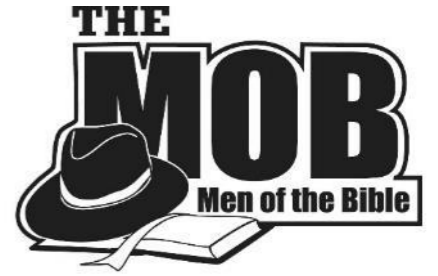
¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us;
He will tread our iniquities under foot.
Yes, You will cast all their sins
Into the depths of the sea.

Hesed is “the unfailing love that is ever loyal to its pledge, love as a settled disposition ...” – Motyer



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Dripping Irony: Isaiah 44:9 – 20



⁹ Those who fashion a graven image are all of them futile, and their precious things are of no profit; even their own witnesses fail to see or know, so that they will be put to shame. (v 44:9)

■ One shapes iron...

- Working with a strong arm, he also gets hungry, his strength fails, he drinks no water and becomes weary (v. 12)

■ ...another shapes wood

- ...like the beauty of a man so it may sit in a house. (v. 13)
- He burns to eat and keep warm—and fall down and worship (vv. 16-17)

Isaiah 44:9-20 (NASB 95)

The Folly of Idolatry

⁹ Those who fashion a graven image are all of them futile, and their precious things are of no profit; even their own witnesses fail to see or know, so that they will be put to shame. ¹⁰ Who has fashioned a god or cast an idol to no profit? ¹¹ Behold, all his companions will be put to shame, for the craftsmen themselves are mere men. Let them all assemble themselves, let them stand up, let them tremble, let them together be put to shame.

¹² The man shapes iron into a cutting tool and does his work over the coals, fashioning it with hammers and working it with his strong arm. He also gets hungry and his strength fails; he drinks no water and becomes weary. ¹³ Another shapes wood, he extends a measuring line; he outlines it with red chalk. He works it with planes and outlines it with a compass, and makes it like the form of a man, like the beauty of man, so that it may sit in a house.

¹⁴ Surely he cuts cedars for himself, and takes a cypress or an oak and raises it for himself among the trees of the forest. He plants a fir, and the rain makes it grow. ¹⁵ Then it becomes something for a

man to burn, so he takes one of them and warms himself; he also makes a fire to bake bread. He also makes a god and worships it; he makes it a graven image and falls down before it. ¹⁶ Half of it he burns in the fire; over this half he eats meat as he roasts a roast and is satisfied. He also warms himself and says, “Aha! I am warm, I have seen the fire.” ¹⁷ But the rest of it he makes into a god, his graven image. He falls down before it and worships; he also prays to it and says, “Deliver me, for you are my god.”

¹⁸ They do not know, nor do they understand, for He has smeared over their eyes so that they cannot see and their hearts so that they cannot comprehend. ¹⁹ No one recalls, nor is there knowledge or understanding to say, “I have burned half of it in the fire and also have baked bread over its coals. I roast meat and eat it. Then I make the rest of it into an abomination, I fall down before a block of wood!” ²⁰ He feeds on ashes; a deceived heart has turned him aside. And he cannot deliver himself, nor say, “Is there not a lie in my right hand?”



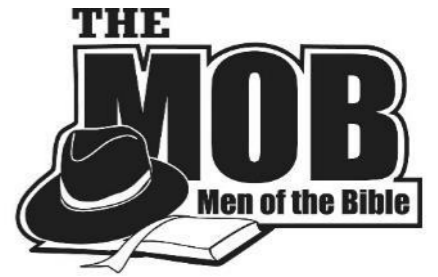
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What's with the Image?

17 But the rest of it he makes into a god, his graven image. He falls down before it and worships; he also prays to it and says, "Deliver me, for you are my god."



A bronze statue of a god (probably Baal) overlaid with gold leaf and found at Megiddo



Cultic Stele from Aramean Kingdom of Geshur

"You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth." Exodus 20:4



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Man made vs God made?



- If people were aware of what the prophet had said earlier about God, the sensitive, spiritually minded person would immediately see how these factors contrast with what was said about the idols and the idol makers.

The New American Commentary, 238.

What was said?

1. Men “form” idols (44:9)
2. Idols do not help; give no profit (44:9)
3. Their witness does not see, know (44:9)
4. Idol makers tremble in fear (44:11)
5. Idol makers will be ashamed (44:11)
6. Idol makers get tired and weary (44:12)
7. Idol makers measure on wood (44:13)
8. Idols are images of humanity (44:13)
9. Idols are wood and metal (44:14)
10. People worship what they make (44:15)
11. People seek divine deliverance (44:17)
12. Idols blind people’s eyes (44:18)
13. Idols give no understanding (44:19)
14. Idolatry is a deceptive lie (44:20)
15. Idols lead people astray (44:20)

What contrast was implied?

- God “forms” the world and his people
- God strengthens and helps his people
- God’s witnesses see and know
- God’s people need not fear
- God’s people will not be ashamed
- God’s strengthens so people are not weary
- God measures out the heavens with his hand
- God made man in his image
- God made the wood and the metals
- The Maker/ Creator should be worshipped
- Only God can bring real deliverance
- God opens people’s eyes
- God gives wisdom and understanding
- God reveals the truth
- God calls people to turn from lies

Isaiah 44:21–28 (NASB 95)

God Forgives and Redeems

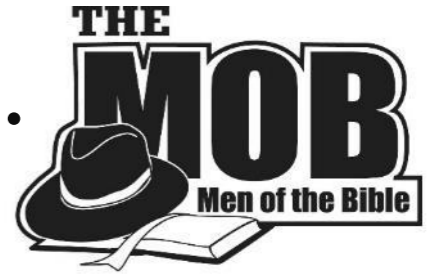
- ²¹ “Remember these things, O Jacob,
And Israel, for you are My servant;
I have formed you, you are My servant,
O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me.
- ²² “I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud
And your sins like a heavy mist.
Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.”
- ²³ Shout for joy, O heavens, for the Lord has done *it!*
Shout joyfully, you lower parts of the earth;
Break forth into a shout of joy, you mountains,
O forest, and every tree in it;
For the Lord has redeemed Jacob
And in Israel He shows forth His glory.
- ²⁴ Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, and the one who formed
you from the womb,
“I, the Lord, am the maker of all things,
Stretching out the heavens by Myself

- And spreading out the earth all alone,
²⁵ Causing the omens of boasters to fail,
Making fools out of diviners,
Causing wise men to draw back
And turning their knowledge into foolishness,
²⁶ Confirming the word of His servant
And performing the purpose of His messengers.
It is I who says of Jerusalem, ‘She shall be inhabited!’
And of the cities of Judah, ‘They shall be built.’
And I will raise up her ruins again.
- ²⁷ “*It is I* who says to the depth of the sea, ‘Be dried up!’
And I will make your rivers dry.
- ²⁸ “*It is I* who says of Cyrus, ‘*He is My shepherd!*
And he will perform all My desire.’
And he declares of Jerusalem, ‘She will be built,’
And of the temple, ‘Your foundation will be laid.’”



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v̄v̄ 21– 27 – Remember these things...



²² “I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud

And your sins like a heavy mist.

Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.”

²³ **Shout** for joy, O heavens, for the LORD has done it!

Shout joyfully, you lower parts of the earth;

Break forth into a shout of joy, you mountains,
O forest, and every tree in it;

For the LORD has redeemed Jacob

And in Israel He shows forth His glory.

- Note the imperatives
 - “But now **listen**, O Jacob...
- Jacob is redeemed
 - *gō’ēl לאל – 41:14; 43:14*
- The powerful message of restoration for Jacob and Jerusalem



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A Personalized Redemption



21 “Remember these things, O Jacob,
And Israel, for you are My servant;
I have formed you, you are My servant,
O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me.

22 “I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud
And your sins like a heavy mist.
Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.”



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A Personalized Redemption



21 “Remember these things, O **fellowship at Immanuel**,

And **men of the MOB**, for you are My servant;

I have formed you, you are My servant,

O **men of the MOB**, you will not be forgotten by Me.

22 “I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud

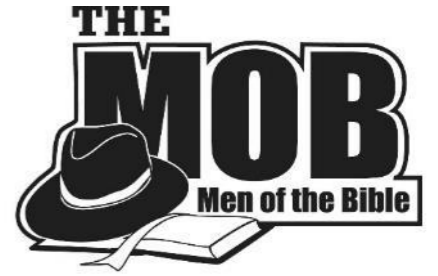
And your sins like a heavy mist.

Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.”



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Key Things to Consider



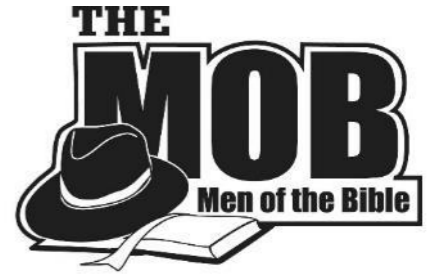
- The blessings of Israel and the message to Jacob underscore the character of God
 - “...and in Israel he shows forth His glory.” v 23
- The folly of idolatry is a gripping visual picture of man’s pathetic inability to bridge God’s divine role
- Forgiveness + Joy + Redemption is a powerful message from the Maker to the servant

“I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud and your sins like a heavy mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.” - Isaiah 44:22



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Discussion and Application

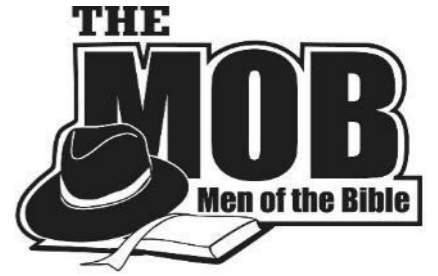


1. In what ways were the early verses of Chapters 43 & 44 similar, complementary, duplicative or cumulative? Are they more powerful together?
 2. How is the uniqueness of God explained or described in vv. 1 – 8? Do these statements exude confidence in the message? Cite your favorite example.
 3. Read vv. 9 – 20. What is the most impactful description/statement? Why?
 4. How are some of the descriptions of idols contrasted against specific elements of God found in Chapters 40 – 44?
 5. Considering God's statements, why is the term abomination describing an idol appropriate? (Deut 27:15; 1 Kg 11:5; 2 Kg 23:13)
 6. How is the introduction of Cyrus in v 28 an appropriate follow-up to the earlier elements of Chapter 44?
-



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Our Study of Isaiah



■ This Meeting:

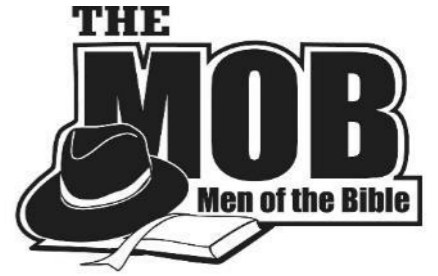
- Isaiah 44, The Blessings of Israel and the Folly of Idolatry
- Memory Verse: Isaiah 44:6
- *Dr. Constable's Notes, 2022 Ed.*, pp. 298-310; *Motyer*, pp. 341-356
- Refreshment Host: Group H

■ Next Meeting:

- Isaiah 45, Cyrus God's Instrument & The LORD, the Only Savior
- Memory Verse: Isaiah 45:8
- *Dr. Constable's Notes, 2023 Ed.*, pp. 310-319; *Motyer*, pp. 356-367
- Refreshment Host: Group A



Isaiah Bible Study Schedule for Fall 2023 – Spring 2024



as of September 2023

#	DATE	CHAPTERS	CONSTABLE	MOTYER	MEM VERSE	HOST GRP
1	5-Sep	INTRO	255-486	298-544	-	IBC
2	12-Sep	40:1-20	255-267	298-305	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				



Backup





Isaiah Bible Study Schedule for Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

as of September 2023



#	DATE	CHAPTERS	CONSTABLE	MOTYER	MEM VERSE	HOST GRP	
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 26-Dec	CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS' BREAK					
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 2023

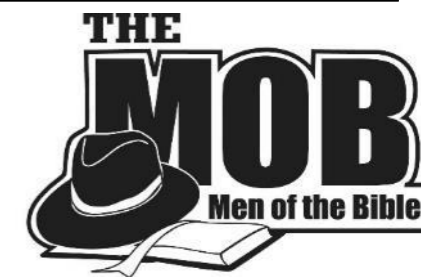


#	DATE	CHAPTERS	CONSTABLE	MOTYER	MEM VERSE	HOST GRP
20	6-Feb	53:7-12	380-386	432-443	53:11	C
21	13-Feb	54	386-394	443-452	54:10	D
22	20-Feb	55	394-401	452-458	55:3	E
23	27-Feb	56	401-408	459-469	56:7	F
24	5-Mar	57	408-415	469-478	57:20	G
25	12-Mar	58	415-421	478-484	58:5	H
26	19-Mar	59	421-428	484-493	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 2023



#	DATE	CHAPTERS	CONSTABLE	MOTYER	MEM VERSE	HOST GRP	
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					