

ISAIAH 42 vs 1

The book of Isaiah has two great divisions; **first**: chapters 1–39; God's Criticism of both rebel houses **Israel** and **Judah**, thereby affecting all the local neighbors in the hood; and **second**: chapters 40–66; God's Consolation to both houses who have separate histories. The great Isaiah scroll found in the Qumran caves, dated from the 2nd century BC has put to rest many wild speculations about prophet Isaiah.



¹ Behold My servant, whom I uphold; My elect in whom My soul delights / so this is Israel -- The One who is governed by God: The One who in infinite wisdom made this choice: HE is God's choice;

I have put My Spirit on Him / God's Spirit came to rest on Him without measure:

He brings judgment to the Gentiles / all the non-Jewish people; in other words, by Him, by this faithful Servant all the rest of the world will be invited to know God's judgments.

² He will not cry,

nor raise or cause His voice to be heard in the street. / Moffatt said He will not be loud and noisy; He will not shout in public. Matthew Henry said, No trumpet will be sounded for Him; and no noisy retinue will follow after.

³ A bruised reed He will not break,

and the smoking flax He will not quench / the flickering wick, He will not extinguish. In gentleness, He will do His work; not with violence... and throwing stones. He is a gentle Man... as He patiently endures the contradiction of sinners against Himself:

He brings judgment to truth / the hallmark of His government is truth. We will know His government because He speaks truth. He brings forth **judgment**... the Hebrew word is: *mishpat*... literally this word means: 'the One... who shuts... the serpent's... mouth'; and He shuts up that father of lies by bringing forth and speaking truth.

Verse ⁴ He will not fail / isn't that good news?!

He will not fail... nor be discouraged / He has work to do; and He will not stop...

till He sets judgment / until He sets *mishpat*... till He silences that accuser of our soul,

till He sets His judgment / not the devil's...

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in the earth:

and the isles / we have words for earth and land and country; this word means: **islands**... which are found at the end of the earth... start there, start where the birthright descendants of Abraham through Joseph and his two sons are found...

the isles will wait for His law / and His law... this Servant's law... is the same law of Him who sent him: which is the law of God! And what is that great law? Well, it's not a complicated hocus pocus thing. It's simple: *love God with all your heart*. And what is the second great law? Simple: *As He loved us, love one another... love our neighbor as our self*. Now, let's get on with it, and ask the Lord to help!

**Verse 5 Thus says the LORD God,
He who created the heavens,**

and stretched them out / how did Isaiah know that the universe was expanding? That is something no individual could ever observe in their lifetime;

**He who spread forth the earth,
and that which comes from it;**

He who gives breath / and that is not just air. That's the breath of life!



He who gives breath to the people upon it, and spirit to them who walk in it / in His law... and this verse sure shoots holes in the evolutionist's monkey business, don't it? The choice is still simple: Time versus Eternity. I mean, we've all had to endure some of the most dim-witted educators – clueless teachers and professors lecturing... not even knowing why they are here. They seem to overpopulate the educational institutions on this planet. I've sat in more graduate courses and listened to fools more times than I'm ashamed to admit.

Here Isaiah reminds us: The LORD God generously gives breath of life... and spirit... to the people who walk on this earth... even though we so often, ignore Him:

Verse 6 I the LORD have called You / My Servant... in righteousness,

and will hold Your hand, and keep You / God will personally guide and guard this Servant,

and give You / this Servant

for a covenant for the people / this Servant is God's promise; God's written contract...

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for a light of the Gentiles / in other words, for all the nations of the earth;

⁷ **to open the blind eyes** / isn't it amazing... that with laser eye-surgery and contact lenses available today, still so many are without insight and understanding; there's a difference between sight and insight,

to bring out the prisoners from the prison / you know, a lot of people... daily walking our 21st century streets, are not free,

and those who sit in darkness out of the prison house.

⁸ **I am the LORD** / I AM YAHWAH. He said to Moses, I AM THAT I AM. Some scholars have translated His sacred name: I AM WHO I AM... and with His Name the Lord is telling us: I AM WHOEVER or WHATEVER... I need to be. No situation confounds our great God:

that is My name:

and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to any graven images.

⁹ **Behold** / pay attention,

the former things are come to pass / in other words: the old things that were foretold have happened just the way God said they would happen,

and new things... I declare / and don't be so obtuse to say, ahuh! I know. The Lord is a Good Teacher, He says to each of us: Watch! Listen... and learn! Think differently... reconsider... rethink; just the very same way we expect the little kids we send to school to think.

Rethink differently, and keep rethinking differently until we think correctly, right?

So, don't be afraid to think that way, every day. God is telling us about: NEW things; not... that's the way we've always done it things. New things to be found in His Word... just sitting there... waiting to be discovered! You know, honorable men like Martin Luther... and so many others through the centuries... have sat every day of their life opening the Word of God and saying: Teach me!

The LORD God said...

Behold, the former things are come to pass / the first things He told us about are being fulfilled;

and new things... I declare;

before they spring forth / before they blossom... before they come to fruition...

I tell you of them.

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Verse 10 Sing unto the LORD a new song / isn't it amazing how the people of God sing,

and His praise from the end of the earth / the prophet looking west towards those isles where the sun sets,

Sing unto the LORD...

you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it;

the isles, and the inhabitants of it / Isaiah says, there's something about those islands... those people need to Sing unto the LORD a new song!

Isaiah... next turns to the east... where the sun rises... he declares...

11 Let the wilderness and the cities of it raise their voice,

the villages that Kedar inhabits / the second son of Ishmael, those in Arabia to the east; let them sing unto the LORD a new song:

Isaiah continues...

let the inhabitants of the rock sing / that's the poorest; the most isolated; let the loners sing to the LORD a new song!

let them shout... from the top of the mountains / let all of them SHOUT! And so typical of our great God, this verse is sort of funny. Through the generations, He has probably heard some lousy, just awful singing! We all have! So, for all the non-singers... the Lord graciously says, **Shout!** Go ahead. A joyful noise is much better... than some of your out of tune singing! Definitely ... you can shout!

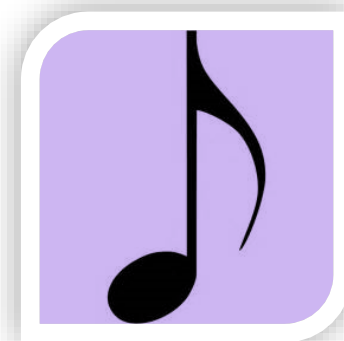
12 Let them give glory / better...

let all of them boast / and brag, and blow your own trumpet...

about the LORD,

and declare His praise / declare His prize... proclaim His costly worth; starting...

in the islands / but don't stop there... continue and run swiftly, as fast as we can... to the rest of the world! And don't forget to check out: [The Songlist of Our Brothers and Sisters singing His praise](#) throughout the world!



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¹³**The LORD will go forth as a mighty man** / when Jesus the Messiah comes again in power and great glory – completely fulfilled at the battle of Armageddon – **the 6th Day of the LORD**,

He will stir up jealousy like a man of war: He will cry out, yes, roar; He will prevail against his enemies.

¹⁴**I have held my peace; I have kept still, and restrained Myself:**

but now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will both gasp and pant / the LORD is going to do what He never imagined having to do when He first created in the beginning, when all He made was very good; but notice, the LORD will not shy away from what He only can do; as He starts the clean-up.

¹⁵**I will waste the mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbs;**

I will overflow islands, and dry up the pools.

¹⁶**And I will bring the blind by a way that they did not know;**

I will lead them on paths they have not known / He would guide them; He was not like an absent father who would just abandon them:

I will turn darkness into light before them, and smooth the rough places.

These things I will do to them, and not leave them undone.

¹⁷**They will be turned around, they will be greatly ashamed** / here's a good Hebrew phrase that you won't forget... they are **bos boshet**,

those who trust in graven images / they are **bos boshet**,

those who say to the metal images, You are our gods / more **bos boshet**.

Israel's Failure to Hear and See,

¹⁸**Hear, you deaf; and look, you blind, that you may see** / because as they were not really sheep, so also they were not physically deaf or blind; but it sounds like they were hardheaded royal jackasses; which means they were: **bos boshet**.

¹⁹**Who is blind, but my servant?** / the chosen houses of **Israel** and **Judah**, were greatly blessed by the Lord God; and were charged to take His good news to the world; but they didn't; instead, they luxuriated in their embezzled blessings; and for nearly 1000 years ignored Moses' fair warnings;

or so deaf, like My messenger that I sent?

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who is so blind a devotee, so blind as the LORD's servant?

²⁰ **For all you saw, you observed nothing** / nothing registered;

for all your listening ears, you heard nothing / nothing He taught them sunk into their thick skulls.

²¹ **The LORD was pleased for His sake to do things right** / somethings He just won't compromise:

His law of love is great and glorious / to love God supremely and to love one another as He loved us; is greater and more glorious than any of us can imagine. He said, that is what we can work on, while He takes care of everything else. Thankfully, He is very long-suffering and merciful toward us. We are to consider Him who endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest we grow weary in doing what is right – **Hebrews 12**. The fact that Jesus could have returned to His Father at any time is really quite amazing; what He gained when He first came eludes me. When He said, I must go away, but I will come again to you and receive you to myself that where I am you might be also. Why would He do that? I wouldn't. Obviously, Jesus knows the big picture; and it is something beyond what we can fully understand and appreciate.

He was pleased to do things right; how about His people?

²² **But this is a people plundered and looted; all of them entrapped in caves, hidden in prisons: with none to rescue as they are ravaged; with none to restore as they are looted.**

²³ **Who among you will give ear to this? who will listen and heed what I say in the future?**

²⁴ **Who let Jacob be spoiled, and Israel be plundered?**

Was it not the LORD, against whom we have sinned?

And in His ways, they would not walk, and in His law, they did not obey.

²⁵ **So, venting on him the heat of His anger -- the fierceness of war: burning him all around, yet he did not know** / either he did not recognize, or he had no clue what was going on;

and it scorched him,

yet he did not take it to heart / he did not care; he certainly paid no attention.