

**I** *Did It My Way*  
Who has performed and done this, calling forth the generations from the beginning? **I, the Lord, am the first, and with the last. "I AM HE."** *Isaiah 41:4*

**Isaiah Ch. 41**

- **Who is God?**
  - Who do we say he is?  
✓ \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Who does God say he is?  
✓ Isaiah 41:4. \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Exodus 3:14. \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Isaiah 44:6-8. \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Isaiah 45:6-7. \_\_\_\_\_  
✓ Ecclesiastes 7:14. \_\_\_\_\_
- **The historical context.**
  - The last half of Isaiah (ch. 40-66) begins with its focus on Judah in exile, and its rescue by the Persian Empire under Cyrus and later Darius, who financed the reconstruction of Jerusalem and the temple.
  - Dates
    - 605 BC-562 BC: reign of Nebuchadnezzar.
    - 587 BC: Jerusalem falls to Babylon.
    - 539 BC: Babylon falls to Cyrus the Persian.
    - C. 522 BC: Beginning of return and reconstruction of Jerusalem.
- **The text: Chapter 41.**
  - V. 1-4: God, the judge, begins his summation.
    - The call to judgment. \_\_\_\_\_
  - V. 5-7: The human response.
    - Relying on false beliefs. \_\_\_\_\_
  - V. 8-16: The promise to Israel.
    - I am your strength; I am your redeemer. \_\_\_\_\_

- V. 17-20: God's plan for the poor and needy.
  - They will not be forsaken. \_\_\_\_\_
  - So that **they** may see. \_\_\_\_\_
- V. 21-29: Taunt to the false prophets.
  - Show me how well you decipher history. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Show me how well you predict the future. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Because you are so useless I have had to go to an outside agency in order get help.
- **A warning for those who attempt to speak for God without knowing what he has already declared.**
  - Claims of special revelation.
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Claims of special understanding.
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Those who proclaim without knowledge or understanding.
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
- **A warning to us as God's redeemed.**
  - We can be led around by our own lack of understanding and knowledge, as was Israel and Judah, and can find ourselves facing the same threat as they were in this chapter.

*Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.*  
*George Santayana*