

Rejecting the Calling

Isaiah Chapter 42

You have seen many things, but you do not observe them; your ears are open, but none hears. The Lord was pleased for His righteousness sake to make the law great and glorious. But this is a people plundered and despoiled; all of them are trapped in caves, or are hidden away in prisons; they have become a prey with none to deliver them, and a spoil, with none to say, "give them back!"
Isaiah 42:20-22

The Text

- V. 1-4: The Servant
 - The author of justice. _____
 - Character: gentle and patient. _____
- V. 5-9: the "I Am" declaration.
 - Ex. 3:14; Is. 41:4, 44:6, 45:6; John 8:28, 58.
 - Creator and sustainer. _____
 - The ideal of justice. _____
 - Jealous of his name and glory. _____
- V. 10-13: The new song.
 - The whole earth shall praise his name. _____
 - He will prevail against all enemies. _____
- V. 14-17: The silence of the ages is broken.
 - No more restraint. _____
 - He will both devastate and heal. _____
 - Idolatry will be put to shame. _____
- V. 18-22: The failure of wisdom.
 - The "blind" servant who sees. _____
 - The failure of the blessed. _____
- V. 23-25: Emphasis toward Jacob, the elect.
 - It was God who gave them up. _____
 - The rejection of God. _____
 - God's response was also rejected. _____

500 Years Later

- Paul's perspective.
 - Romans 9:2-6
 - ✓ Has the word of God failed? _____
 - _____
 - ✓ What part of Isaiah 42 has not been fulfilled? _____
 - _____
 - ✓ If there was failure, what was it? _____
 - _____
 - Romans 10:2-9
 - ✓ What caused the blindness of God's chosen? _____
 - _____
 - ✓ What did they not want to see? _____
 - _____

2500 Years Later

- The Perpetual perspective
 - Romans 11:5-12
 - ✓ What is the message to us today? _____
 - _____
 - ✓ What can we still learn from this small remnant? _____
 - _____
 - Romans 11:17-24
 - ✓ Is there a risk evident in our potential behavior? _____
 - _____
 - ✓ Do we behave as Israel and Judah? _____
 - _____

What will our response be when we stand before God? Will we be able to look God in the eye and say that we have defended his glory, that we have spoken up for justice, have defended the defenseless, and have proclaimed the truth of his righteousness and his sacrifice. Will we have proclaimed that a lamb died to rescue the souls of mankind?

BEFORE THE THRONE

SOMEWHERE,

*On this earth,
on this continent,
in this country,
in this state,
in your city,
down the street,*

SOMEONE,

*is being pressed down,
is being ignored,
is being judged,
is being chased off,
is being abandoned,
has been exiled.*

SOMETIMES,

*we fear,
we cower,
we overlook,
we excoriate,
we label,
We've hated.*

SOMEDAY,

*we'll plead,
we'll explain,
we'll deny,
we'll beg,
we'll accept
we'll be judged.*

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