

## Lesson 5: Isaiah 40-55

### I. Introduction:

- A. Recall Babylonian visit in chap. 39
- B. Three future Babylonian visits to Judah (605/597/586 BC)
- C. A future audience in exile (48:20)

### II. Supremacy of the God of Israel

- A. Creator of the world (40:12-31)
- B. Proclaimer of the future (44:6-8)
- C. Redeemer of the repentant (44:22-23)
- D. Contrasted to idols (44:9-21)
- E. The Creator/Proclaimer/Redeemer at work:
  - Cyrus by name (44:28-45:7, 46:10-11, similar prediction in I Kg 13:2)
  - Fall of Babylon and release of exiles (47:5-7, 48:20)
  - Israel's deliverance/Babylon's fall as prototypes of grander things to come:
    - Deliverance for the world (45:20-25)
    - Fall of a worldwide 'Babylon' (Rev 17:1-18:24)

### III. The LORD's Servant

- A. A collective people (41:8-16)
- B. Hints of an ideal individual servant foreseen:
  - 42:1-9
  - 49:1-7
  - 50:4-9

C. The ideal Servant more fully disclosed:

- Preamble of good news (52:7-12)
- An incredible irony (52:13-53:3)
- His suffering on behalf of others (53:4-6)
- Further aspects of His suffering (53:7-9)
- Outcome of His suffering (53:10-12)
- Identification of this Servant (Mt 8:17, Lk 22:37, Jn 12:37-41, Acts 8:32-35, 1 Pet 2:22)

**IV. Recommended responses to the LORD for His marvelous provision**

A. Rejoice, Israel (54)

- You are no longer a barren widow (1-6)
- Your God is showing you lovingkindness and compassion (7-10)
- Take comfort as you come under the LORD's protection as His servants (11-17)

B. Come to Me (55)

- Take hold of a salvation you could never pay for (1-2)
- Call on Him for He is near and ready to forgive (6-7)
- His word will accomplish what He intends (10-11)