

Isaiah 40:10-18 + 21 + 31

This chapter begins with the famous Messianic announcement “prepare the way of the Lord.” God’s promise is still in effect, even though Abram and Sarai’s faith is failing. Their whole story is preparation for the Deliverer, the Messiah.

Isaiah 40:6 - “The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field”

“the goodness thereof” is better translated “the promises,” i.e. of flesh/humankind. Man’s promises are unreliable and fade. But God’s promise is established.

Isaiah 40:12 - “Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?”

God is supreme and sovereign, that’s why he can be counted on - and further, He needs no advice from us on how to run the universe.

Isaiah 40:13-14 - “Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?”

Paul quotes this passage:

Romans 11:33-34 - “O, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable His judgments, and untraceable His ways! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor?”

Abram and Sarai presumed to do just that with their plan to obtain the promised seed through Hagar.

Isaiah 40:26 - “Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.”

Compare to **Genesis 15:5** - “And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.”

Finally, in contrast to Abram and Sarai’s impatience, Isaiah gives the great promise of waiting:

Isaiah 40:31 - “But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall

mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”