

## For the Glory of God December 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### *Isaiah 43:1-7*

As we celebrate Christmas through songs, gifts and decorations, we are reminded over and over of the most precious gift ever given to humankind, Jesus Christ the Son of God, who came to rescue us from sin and save us from condemnation and the wrath to come at the end of this world. We have the understanding that many people lack; Jesus became flesh and died in my place for my sins.

#### **God became a helpless baby in order to give us life.**

- ❖ Jesus, our God and Savior, became incarnate; therefore we rest in Him putting all our confidence in His redemptive work. Our salvation is a gift and we are His.  
*Ephesians 2:8-10* “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,...”
- ❖ Isaiah 43 tells us that God redeemed Israel; they are His creation; He called them in order to show His love toward them.
  - ♦ In the previous chapters of Isaiah, God, through Isaiah, had severely rebuked the Israelites as being deaf and blind. God had showed them that it was on account of their sins that many calamities were to come upon them.
  - ♦ Yet in Isaiah 43, God says that the Israelites are the people whom He had redeemed and it was His purpose to deliver them. God repeats the solemn assurance that they would be rescued, no matter what, even promising: “*I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life.*”
- ❖ As we look at these descriptions of God’s liberation, we wonder and ask the question: What is God’s motivation?  
*Isaiah 43:4* “*Because you are precious in My eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you,...*”  
*Isaiah 43:7* “*everyone who is called by My name, whom I created for My glory,...*”
  - f For the Glory of God!  
Glory: “*gloriously, glory, honorable.* Rarely *kabod* {kaw-bode’}; from *kabad*; *properly, weight, but only figuratively in a good sense, splendor or copiousness* -- glorious(-ly), glory, honour(-able).”<sup>1</sup>
  - ♦ When we get to the heart of the matter, the reason for God’s salvation is the manifestation of His glory!
  - ♦ The main reason for the plan of God’s salvation is the display and manifestation of His perfect will and His wonderful love; this is an expression of His attributes.

#### **The glory of God is displayed through the gift of salvation**

The gifts of salvation are the outpouring of His attributes and greatness to someone who doesn’t deserve anything from God!

#### ❖ **God’s redemption of Israel shows us the immensity of God’s unconditional love.**

*Isaiah 43:1* “*But now thus says the LORD, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: ‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.’*”

- ♦ God had formed and redeemed Israel.
- ♦ Israel had always rebelled against the Lord.

*Isaiah 65:2* “*I spread out My hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices;*”

*Hosea 14:4* “*I will heal their apostasy; I will love them freely, for My anger has turned from them.*”

♦ God's love endures forever in spite of our sin. God rescued us and gave us new life as we were dead in our trespasses and sins.

♦ God's redemption is the proof of His unconditional love.

*Matthew 1:21 "She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."*

❖ **God's protection and deliverance of Israel shows us the power of His covenant.**

*Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."*

♦ If God had formed the Israelites and had owned them, in His faithfulness, He would be with them in the midst of their trials.

*Romans 5:10 "For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life."*

❖ **God's sovereignty of election of Israel shows us the riches of His grace.**

*Isaiah 43:3 "For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you."*

♦ The Israelites had been so precious and valuable to God that He had given entire nations for their ransom.

*Romans 9:20-23 "But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, 'Why have you made me like this?' Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use? What if God, desiring to show His wrath and to make known His power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, in order to make known the riches of His glory for vessels of mercy, which He has prepared beforehand for glory—"*

❖ **The atonement for our sin shows us the precious gift of Jesus Christ.**

*Isaiah 43:4 "Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life."*

♦ God is declaring that He would continue to give more for their ransom, if necessary, promising the incarnation of Jesus Christ.

*Romans 8:32 "He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?"*

*f Glory to the newborn King!*

❖ **God's ability to gather His people shows us His power.**

*Isaiah 43:5-6 "Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth,"*

♦ It was the purpose of God to gather His people, wherever they might be scattered, so therefore they had nothing to fear.

♦ Is there anything too difficult for God?

**The glory of God is the great end  
which all believers are to seek to promote!**

Endnotes:

<sup>1</sup> "Strong's Concordance: Greek 3519. kabowd" Bible Hub. © 2004 - 2015 by Biblos.com. <<http://biblehub.com/hebrew/3519.htm>>.

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