

Isaiah 41
The Nations and their Idols

State your case before God (1-4)

He will silence you (Proverbs 30:5-6)

He has called for your judgment (Revelation 20:12)

He (the first and the last – Revelation 1:8, 17; 21:6) will carry His purpose to completion

Spur one another on (5-7)

Trembling before God – those who will not turn

Trying to encourage others in their hopeless state (I Samuel 28:21-25)

Trusting empty notions (Isaiah 55:2)

Strength is found only in God (8-20)

Chosen by Him (8-9) (Ephesians 1:4)

Courage from Him ((10-14) – even though we are worms

Conquerors in Him (15-16) (Romans 8:37)

Consider His promises (17-20) (II Corinthians 1:20)

Seeing the future (21-29)

Proclaim what the future holds (21-22) – only God has that power

Proving themselves worthless (23-24) (Psalm 115:8)

Prophecy about the future (25-26) – verification needed (Deuteronomy 18:21-22)

Providing true counsel (27-29) – He is the only reliable source (Proverbs 3:5-6; 16:1,9)

Discussion questions

Since stating my case before God is pointless (i.e. I have no case), how might I prepare myself to give an answer to others? (I Peter 3:15)

(Acts 17:11)

(Acts 20: 27, 32 / Deuteronomy 17:18-20 / Matthew 28:19)

(James 1:22 / II Corinthians 3:2-3)

(Colossians 4:2-6)

Spurring others on to turn from God is disastrous. How can we spur one another on toward love and good deeds? (Hebrews 10:24-25 / Acts 2:42-47 / Philippians 3:17)

When we find our strength in God, what do we gain?

(John 14:27; 16:33)

(Romans 5:3-5)

(I Corinthians 16:13-14 / Hebrews 13:5-6)

(II Corinthians 1:3-4, 7, 9-11)

What does God, who knows the future, ask of us?

(Micah 6:8)

(Matthew 28:18-20)

(II Corinthians 5:18-21)

(Ephesians 5:1-2)