

Isaiah Week 27

ISAIAH

THE FIFTH GOSPEL



Isaiah 38: 1 (NIV)

In those days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to him and said, "This is what the Lord says: Put your house in order, because you are going to die; you will not recover."

Isaiah 38: 2-3 (NIV)

Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, “Remember, Lord, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes.” And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

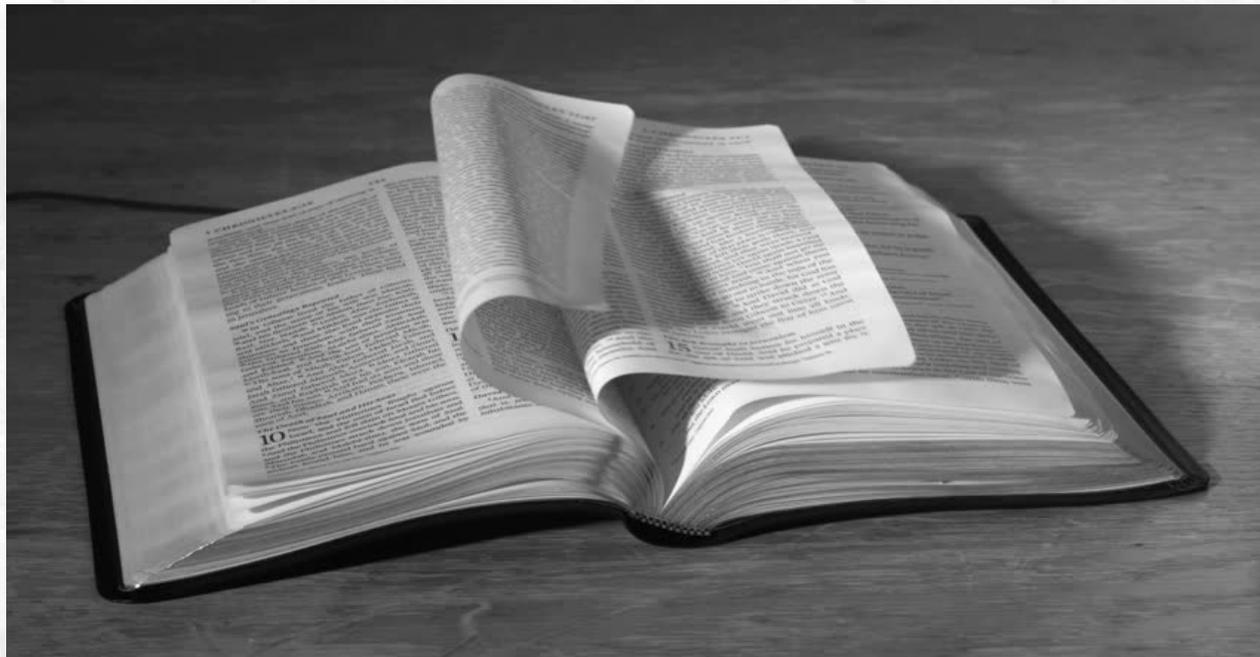
Isaiah 38: 4-5 (NIV)

Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah: "Go and tell Hezekiah, 'This is what the Lord, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will add fifteen years to your life.'

Isaiah 38: 7-8 (NIV)

“This is the Lord’s sign to you that the Lord will do what he has promised: I will make the shadow cast by the sun go back the ten steps it has gone down on the stairway of Ahaz.” So the sunlight went back the ten steps it had gone down.

Please turn to:
2 Kings 20: 8-11



2 Kings 20: 8-11 (NIV)

Hezekiah had asked Isaiah, "What will be the sign that the Lord will heal me and that I will go up to the temple of the Lord on the third day from now?" Isaiah answered, "This is the Lord's sign to you that the Lord will do what he has promised: Shall the shadow go forward ten steps, or shall it go back ten steps?"

2 Kings 20: 8-11 (NIV)

“It is a simple matter for the shadow to go forward ten steps,” said Hezekiah. “Rather, have it go back ten steps.”

Then the prophet Isaiah called on the Lord, and the Lord made the shadow go back the ten steps it had gone down on the stairway of Ahaz.

Question

How powerful is God?

Question

Can He be the victor over
your battles?

Question

King Hezekiah is now going to give us a peek into his emotions after being told he was going to die and then how he felt after his healing.

Isaiah 38: 9 (NIV)

*A writing of Hezekiah king of Judah
after his illness and recovery:*

Isaiah 38: 10-11 (NIV)

I said, "In the prime of my life must I go through the gates of death and be robbed of the rest of my years?" I said, "I will not again see the Lord himself in the land of the living; no longer will I look on my fellow man, or be with those who now dwell in this world.

Isaiah 38: 12 (NIV)

*Like a shepherd's tent my house
has been pulled down and taken
from me.*

*Like a weaver I have rolled up my
life, and he has cut me off from the
loom;
day and night you made an end
of me.*

Isaiah 38: 13-14 (NIV)

*I waited patiently till dawn,
but like a lion he broke all my
bones; day and night you made an
end of me. I cried like a swift or
thrush, I moaned like a mourning
dove. My eyes grew weak as I looked
to the heavens. I am being
threatened; Lord, come to my aid!”*

Isaiah 38: 15 (NIV)

But what can I say?

*He has spoken to me, and he
himself has done this.*

*I will walk humbly all my years
because of this anguish of my
soul.*

Isaiah 38: 16 (NIV)

*Lord, by such things people live;
and my spirit finds life in them
too.*

*You restored me to health
and let me live.*

Isaiah 38: 17 (NIV)

*Surely it was for my benefit
that I suffered such anguish.*

*In your love you kept me
from the pit of destruction;
you have put all my sins
behind your back.*

Isaiah 38: 18 (NIV)

*For the grave cannot praise you,
death cannot sing your praise;
those who go down to the pit
cannot hope for your faithfulness.*

Isaiah 38: 19 (NIV)

*The living, the living – they praise
you,
as I am doing today;
parents tell their children
about your faithfulness.*

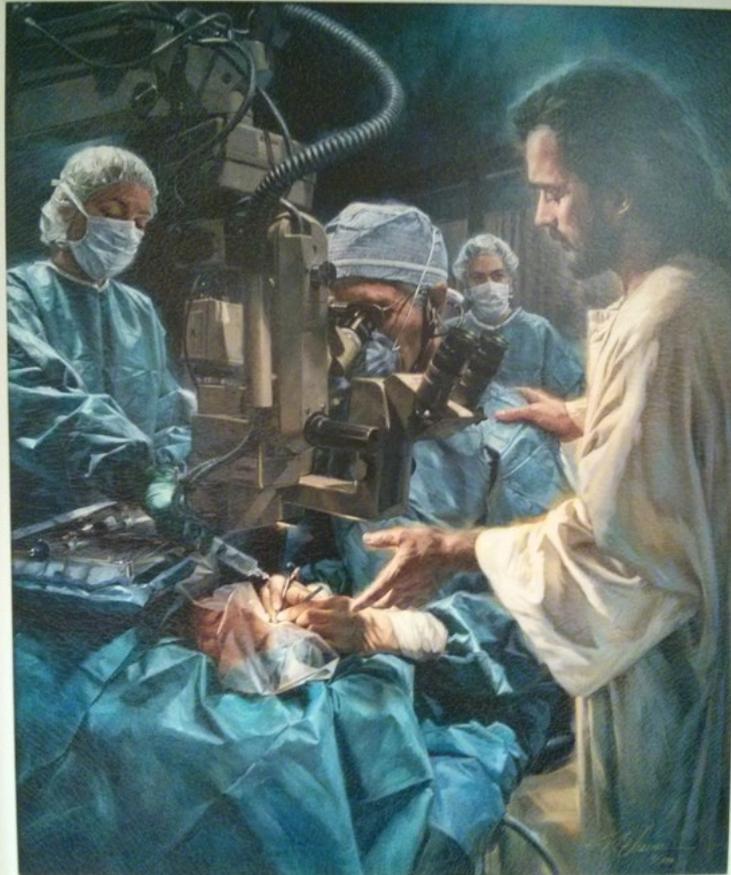
Isaiah 38: 20 (NIV)

*The Lord will save me,
and we will sing with stringed
instruments
all the days of our lives
in the temple of the Lord.*

Question

When a doctor prescribes medication for an illness and the illness is cured, who performed the healing?

JESUS OUR GREAT PHYSICIAN



Isaiah 38: 21-22 (NIV)

Isaiah had said, “Prepare a poultice of figs and apply it to the boil, and he will recover.”

Hezekiah had asked, “What will be the sign that I will go up to the temple of the Lord?”

Isaiah 39: 1 (NIV)

At that time Marduk-Baladan son of Baladan king of Babylon sent Hezekiah letters and a gift, because he had heard of his illness and recovery.

Question

Do you remember which kingdom Hezekiah feared would take Judah and Jerusalem captive?

Question

Do you remember which kingdom did take Judah and Jerusalem into captivity?

Isaiah 39: 1 (NIV)

At that time Marduk-Baladan son of Baladan king of Babylon sent Hezekiah letters and a gift, because he had heard of his illness and recovery.

Isaiah 39: 2 (NIV)

Hezekiah received the envoys gladly and showed them what was in his storehouses – the silver, the gold, the spices, the fine olive oil – his entire armory and everything found among his treasures. There was nothing in his palace or in all his kingdom that Hezekiah did not show them.

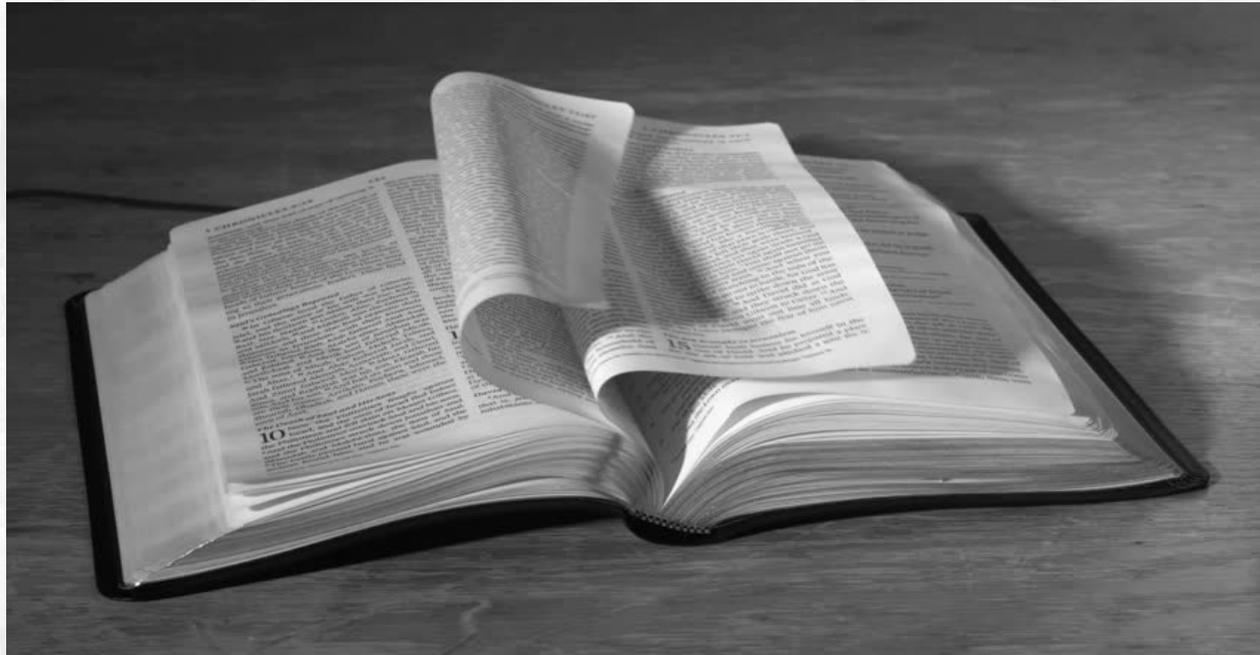
Question

Why did Hezekiah just show
this enemy nation everything
he has?

Question

Do you remember how we
are told the Antichrist is
going to take the world
captive?

Please turn to:
Daniel 11: 21, 31-32



Daniel 11: 21 (ESV)

In his place shall arise a contemptible person to whom royal majesty has not been given. He shall come in without warning and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.

Daniel 11: 31-32 (NIV)

“His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation. With flattery he will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, but the people who know their God will firmly resist him.

Question

Why is flattery so powerful?

Isaiah 39: 3 (NIV)

Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah and asked, “What did those men say, and where did they come from?”

“From a distant land,” Hezekiah replied. “They came to me from Babylon.”

Isaiah 39: 4 (NIV)

The prophet asked, “What did they see in your palace?”

“They saw everything in my palace,” Hezekiah said. “There is nothing among my treasures that I did not show them.”

Isaiah 39: 5-6 (NIV)

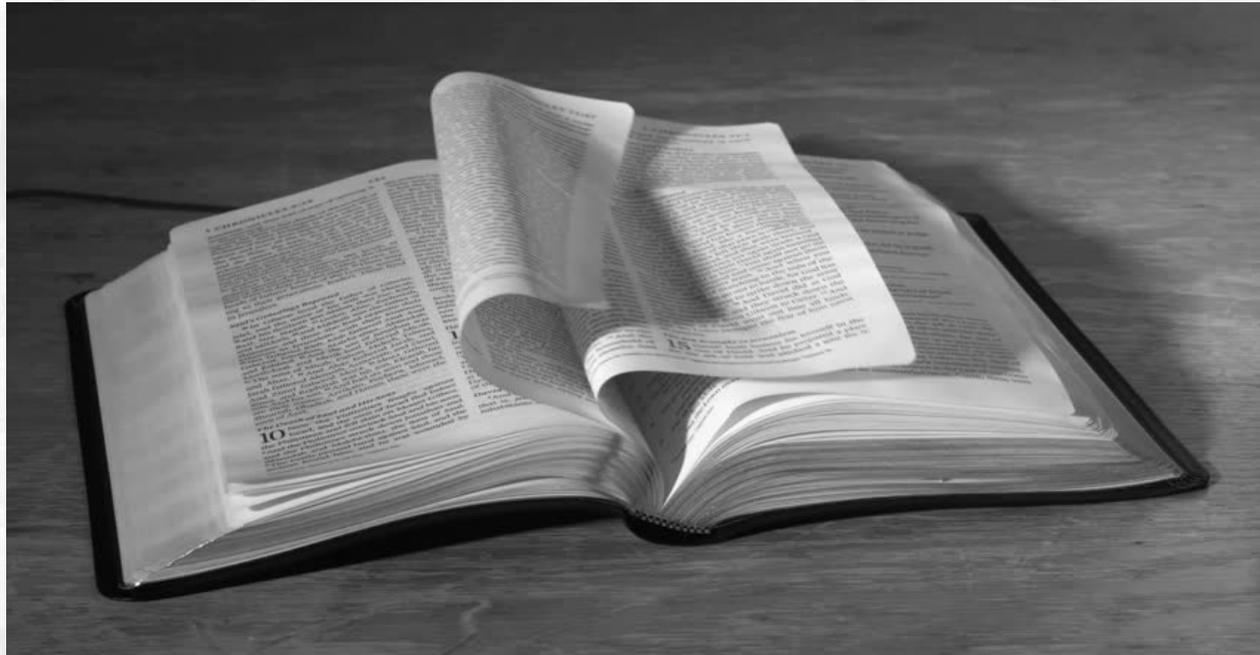
Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of the Lord Almighty: The time will surely come when everything in your palace, and all that your predecessors have stored up until this day, will be carried off to Babylon. Nothing will be left, says the Lord.

Isaiah 39: 7 (NIV)

And some of your descendants, your own flesh and blood who will be born to you, will be taken away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon."

Please turn to:

Daniel 1: 1-3



Daniel 1: 1-3 (NKJV)

*In the third year of the reign of
Jehoiakim king of Judah,
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon
came to Jerusalem and besieged it.*

Daniel 1: 1-3 (NKJV)

And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god.

Daniel 1: 1-3 (NKJV)

*Then the king instructed Ashpenaz,
the master of his eunuchs, to bring
some of the children of Israel and
some of the king's descendants and
some of the nobles,*

Isaiah 39: 8 (NIV)

The word of the Lord you have spoken is good," Hezekiah replied. For he thought, "There will be peace and security in my lifetime."

Question

From his comments, how do you think Hezekiah feels about the Babylonians?

Question

How many books are there
in the Bible?

Question

How many books are there
in the Bible?

Question

How many chapters are in
Isaiah?

Question

How many books are in the
Old Testament?

The Prophecies of Isaiah are broken up into two sections. The first section is in chapters 1-39 and deals heavily with warnings and rebukes for Israel's sins.

Isaiah's prophecies in Chapters 40-66 focus heavily on the blessings and fulfillments of God's promises to His people and His land, Israel.

Isaiah 40: 1-2 (NIV)

*Comfort, comfort my people says
your God. Speak tenderly to
Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that
her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for,
that she has received from the Lord's
hand double for all her sins.*

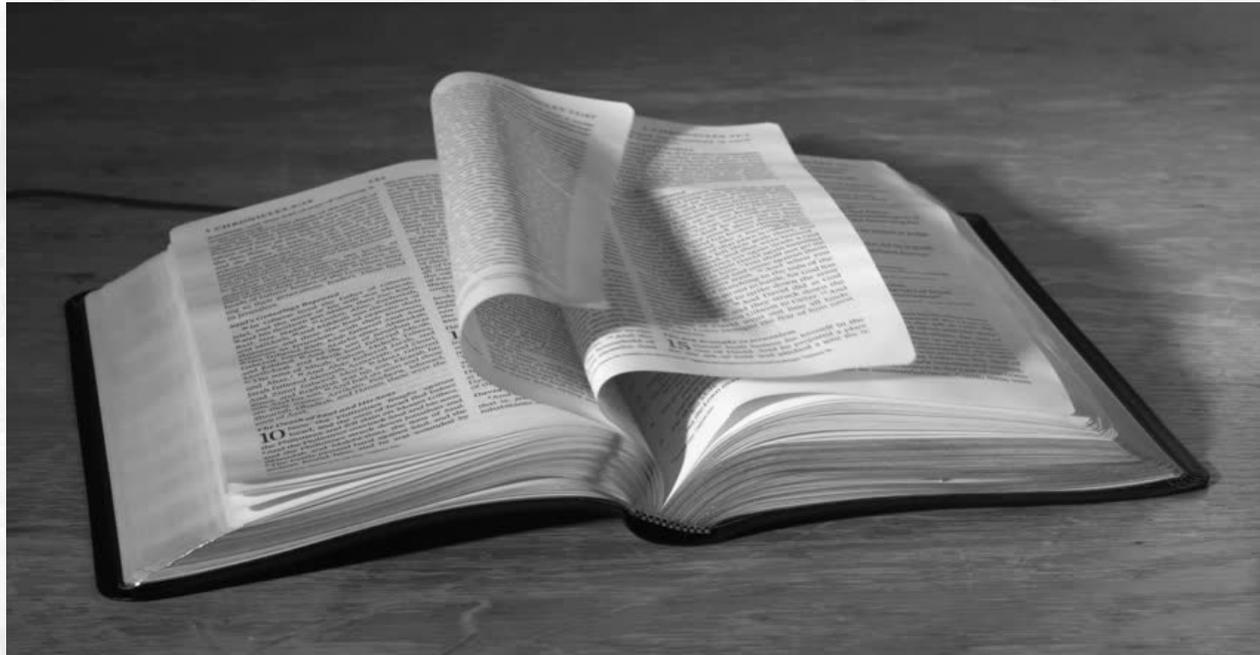
Isaiah 40: 3 (NIV)

*A voice of one calling:
“In the wilderness prepare
the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.*

Question

Does verse 3 sound familiar?

Please turn to:
John 1: 19-23



John 1: 19-23 (NIV)

Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah."

John 1: 19-23 (NIV)

*They asked him, “Then who are you?
Are you Elijah?”*

He said, “I am not.”

“Are you the Prophet?”

He answered, “No.”

John 1: 19-23 (NIV)

Finally they said, “Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?”

John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, “I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’”

Isaiah 40: 4 (NIV)

*Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made
low;*

*the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.*

Isaiah 40: 5-6 (NIV)

*And the glory of the Lord will be
revealed,
and all people will see it together.
For the mouth of the Lord has
spoken.”*

*A voice says, “Cry out.”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”*

Isaiah 40: 5-6 (NIV)

And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” A voice says, “Cry out.” And I said, “What shall I cry?” “All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

Isaiah 40: 7-8 (NIV)

*The grass withers and the flowers
fall, because the breath of the Lord
blows on them.*

*Surely the people are grass.
The grass withers and the flowers
fall,
but the word of our God endures
forever.”*

Isaiah 40: 9 (NIV)

*You who bring good news to Zion,
go up on a high mountain.
You who bring good news to
Jerusalem,
lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid;
say to the towns of Judah,
“Here is your God!”*

Isaiah 40: 10 (NIV)

*See, the Sovereign Lord comes with
power,
and he rules with a mighty arm.
See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense accompanies
him.*

Isaiah 40: 11 (NIV)

*He tends his flock like a shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;
he gently leads those that have
young.*

Isaiah 40: 12 (NIV)

*Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand,
or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens?*

Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance?

Isaiah 40: 13-14 (NIV)

Who can fathom the Spirit of the Lord, or instruct the Lord as his counselor? Whom did the Lord consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way? Who was it that taught him knowledge, or showed him the path of understanding?

Isaiah 40: 15-16 (NIV)

Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust.

Lebanon is not sufficient for altar fires, nor its animals enough for burnt offerings.

Isaiah 40: 17-18 (NIV)

Before him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by him as worthless and less than nothing.

*With whom, then, will you compare
God?*

*To what image will you liken
him?*

Isaiah 40: 19 (NIV)

*As for an idol, a metalworker casts
it,
and a goldsmith overlays it with
gold
and fashions silver chains for it.*

Isaiah 40: 20 (NIV)

*A person too poor to present such an offering
selects wood that will not rot;
they look for a skilled worker
to set up an idol that will not
topple.*

Isaiah 40: 21 (NIV)

Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

*Has it not been told you from the
beginning?*

*Have you not understood since
the earth was founded?*

Isaiah 40: 22 (NIV)

He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers.

*He stretches out the heavens like a canopy,
and spreads them out like a tent
to live in.*

Isaiah 40: 23-24 (NIV)

*He brings princes to naught
and reduces the rulers of this
world to nothing. No sooner are
they planted, no sooner are they
sown, no sooner do they take root in
the ground, than he blows on them
and they wither, and a whirlwind
sweeps them away like chaff.*

Isaiah 40: 25 (NIV)

*“To whom will you compare me?
Or who is my equal?” says the
Holy One.*

Isaiah 40: 26 (NIV)

Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens:

Who created all these?

He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.

Isaiah 40: 27 (NIV)

Why do you complain, Jacob?

Why do you say, Israel,

*“My way is hidden from the Lord;
my cause is disregarded by my
God”?*

Isaiah 40: 28 (NIV)

Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

*The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the
earth.*

*He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can
fathom.*

Isaiah 40: 29-30 (NIV)

*He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the
weak.*

*Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;*

Isaiah 40: 31 (NIV)

*but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow
weary,
they will walk and not be faint.*

Isaiah 41: 1 (NIV)

*“Be silent before me, you islands!
Let the nations renew their
strength!
Let them come forward and speak;
let us meet together at the place
of judgment.*

Isaiah 41: 2 (NIV)

“Who has stirred up one from the east, calling him in righteousness to his service?

He hands nations over to him and subdues kings before him.

He turns them to dust with his sword, to windblown chaff with his bow.

Isaiah 41: 3 (NIV)

*He pursues them and moves on
unscathed,
by a path his feet have not
traveled before.*

Many scholars believe this prophecy is about King Cyrus and the future kingdom of Persia.

This is 150 years before his birth!

King Cyrus is mentioned over 22 times in the Bible along with countless archeological discoveries supporting his reign over the Persian Empire.

His tomb in Iran can be visited today.

Isaiah 41: 4 (NIV)

*Who has done this and carried it
through,
calling forth the generations from
the beginning?*

*I, the Lord – with the first of them
and with the last – I am he.”*

Isaiah 41: 5-6 (NIV)

*The islands have seen it and fear;
the ends of the earth tremble.
They approach and come forward;
they help each other
and say to their companions, “Be
strong!”*

Question

Who is in control?

Question

Who is not in control?

Isaiah 41: 7 (NIV)

The metalworker encourages the goldsmith, and the one who smooths with the hammer spurs on the one who strikes the anvil.

One says of the welding, "It is good."

The other nails down the idol so it will not topple.

Isaiah 41: 8 (NIV)

*“But you, Israel, my servant,
Jacob, whom I have chosen,
you descendants of Abraham my
friend,*

Isaiah 41: 9 (NIV)

*I took you from the ends of the earth,
from its farthest corners I called
you.*

*I said, 'You are my servant';
I have chosen you and have not
rejected you.*