

“comfort my people”

Isaiah Chapter 40

“comfort my people”

Isaiah 40:1-2

1 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. **2** 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.

“comfort my people”

“The seeds of comfort may take root in the soil of adversity. When you life seems to be falling apart, ask God to comfort you. You may not escape adversity, but you may find God’s comfort as you face it.”

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“the way for the LORD”

Isaiah 40:3-5

3 A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. **4** Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. **5** And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

“the way for the LORD”

Matthew 3:1-3

1 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea **2** and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” **3** This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

“All people are like grass”

Isaiah 40:6-11

6 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. **7** The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass.

8 The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.” **9** 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!”

10 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. **11** 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.

“All people are like grass”

Psalm 23:1

**The LORD is my shepherd, I
shall not be in want.**

“All people are like grass”

John 10:11, 14-15

11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

14 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— **15** just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

“All people are like grass”

Hebrews 13:20

**Now may the God of peace, who
through the blood of the eternal
covenant brought back from the
dead our Lord Jesus, that great
Shepherd of the sheep,**

“All people are like grass”

1 Peter 5:4

**And when the Chief Shepherd
appears, you will receive the
crown of glory that will never
fade away.**

“Do you not know?”

Isaiah 40:12-31

12 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? **13** Who can fathom the Spirit of the LORD, or instruct the LORD as his counselor?

14 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?

“Do you not know?”

Job 38:4-7

4 “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation? Tell me, if you understand. **5** Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? **6** On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone — **7** while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?”

15 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. **16** Lebanon is not sufficient for altar fires, nor its animals enough for burnt offerings. **17** Before him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by him as worthless and less than nothing. **18** With whom, then, will you compare God? To what image will you liken him?

19 As for an idol, a metalworker casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and fashions silver chains for it. **20** 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.

“Do you not know?”

“The prophet sarcastically indicated the futility of trying to portrait the immensity of God- His power, wisdom and resources-in the form of a man-made idol, no matter how ornate, durable, and immovable.”

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“Do you not know?”

21 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? **22** 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.

23 He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. **24** 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

“Do you not know?”

**“God disposes of human
leaders, according to His will.”**

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“Do you not know?”

25 “To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One. **26** 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. **27** Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God”?

28 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. **29** He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

30 Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; **31** 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.

“Do you not know?”

Matthew 11:28-30

28 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. **29** Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30** For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Applications

- **God is sovereign over all**
- **God is love**
- **God is revealed in Jesus**

Final Thoughts

Colossians 1:15-17

15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. **16**

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. **17** He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Final Thoughts

Romans 11:33-36

33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! **34** “Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?” **35** “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?” **36** For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.