

ISAIAH –Lesson 53

Learn: Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure. Isaiah 46:9,10

Read: Isaiah 46: 1-13

This portion of Isaiah, from Isaiah 45:1-46:13, speaks of God's Sovereign Plan of Salvation for His people Israel. Chapter 46:1-13 involves Divine Immutability in assuring us of God's salvation

NOTE: Bel- name of Babylonian god (same as Baal) means "lord" and referred to the high god Marduk of Babylon. Nebo was Bel's son and the god of nearby Borsippa. Nebo was the god of wisdom and was carried annually to Babylon to accompany his father (Bel) in the New Year processions and to write on the "tables of destiny" what the coming year held for Babylon.

In 703 BC when Sennacherib attacked Babylon, Merodach-Baladin organized an evacuation of the "gods."

1. What does Isaiah say to mock these gods? vv 1,2
2. What does Jeremiah prophecy concerning Bel in Jeremiah 50:2 and 51:44?
3. In verses 3-5 we have a contrast of God to these false gods of Babylon. What is God's call to His people? v 3a
4. How does God describe Israel's creation? v 3b; Psalm139:13-17

5. How did the Lord show His care of His people? v 3c

6. In our society, it seems that it is the young that are important. The young are coddled and sought after. How is the Lord's care for His people different? v 4a; Psalm 37:23-25

7. People make promises and commitments, which in many cases they do not keep. How is the Lord different than people? v 4b

8. What does God tell us about comparing Himself to anything else? v 5; Psalm 89:6-8
Jeremiah 10:6,7,10,12,13,16

9. What kind of effort do people put into making their gods? v 6, 7a; Jeremiah 10:3-5, 8-9

10. What is achieved by worshipping idols? v 7b

11. "Remember this" of verse 8 is referring back to what has just be said, what is that?

12. In what way does God call these people to show that they are men? v 8

13. Since we are made in the image of God, man has the ability to reason and to think, to look at things logically. God did not make little puppets and He wants us to use our minds. What happens to people's reasoning power when they turn away from God

and worship false gods?

How is this loss of reason evident in our society?

14. Even Christians will stray from God and lose their ability to reason. When we stray, we will make bad decisions based on emotion and the pressure of the moment, rather than using rational judgment that God has given us. What is the cure for the tendency to stray that will help keep us on track with God? vv 9, 10

15. Why should we not fear the future, no matter how bleak things may look to us? v10b

16. How is the permanency of God's counsel shown? Psalm33:10-11; Proverbs 19:20-21

17. What is the reason behind all that God does? v 10b

18. Who can thwart God's purposes? v 11b

19. What is a "stouthearted" person? v 12
Proverbs 1:24, 25

Proverbs 1:28-30

Psalm 107:11

20. What does God say to those who are "stouthearted"? v 12

21. What will happen to those who remain “stouthearted” and refuse to listen to God?
Proverbs 1:31,32

22. What is the promise that God wants his people to trust? v 13a

23. Who will receive God’s salvation and see His glory? v 13b

24. If a person truly listens to God, that person will trust and believe what He says. What is God’s promise to all who listen to Him? John 5:24