

E. "he" vs. "you" (1-9)

i. Acts 13:47-38

ii. "the Gentiles were glad..." in Paul's ministry.

### LIVE THE STORY

*We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.*

- Isaiah 42:9 speaks of former things and new things. What are the former things being spoken of? ... the new things?
- Compare the renewing of strength in 40:31 with 41:1. What do you think is implied by the contrast between them?
- What is the effect Cyrus has on the nations of the world? What makes the people of God different that they should not have this same effect?
- What is being communicated by the Lord calling Himself "your Redeemer" in 41:14?
- What is the condition of Israel described in 41:8-20 when God encourages them, "Do not be afraid"?
- How does the title "the Holy One of Israel" contrast with the idols of the nations as described in Isaiah 41?
- Discuss the nature of how God will answer the prayers of His people as described in 41:17-20. What qualifies God to do this work?
- What is the repeated emphasis of the power of idols? (See 41:24, 26, 29 in particular.)
- In whose law do the nations put their hope in Isaiah 42:1-4? What does this tell us about the Servant? What Gospel texts demonstrate Jesus giving us His law? Epistles?
- How does Paul see himself in Isaiah 42? What is the response of the Gentiles to this in Acts 13:47-38?
- Why are we called to sing a new song? Who won't be singing in 42:17? Why?

### To Sing or Not to Sing

Jerry Cisar — May 8, 2011

Text: Isaiah 41 – 42

### Introduction: A New Song for New Things (Isaiah 42:9-17)

A. "Sing to the Lord a new song..."

i. The call to sing a new song is a response to a fresh realization, a fresh display, of the goodness of God.

ii. Where the praise comes from?

iii. What is this New thing which the Lord is doing?

B. What are the Former things?

i. 41:2-5 Stirring up one from the east...

ii. 41:25 Stirring up one from the north...

- Predicting the Conqueror Cyrus, He can also predict the future salvation of His people.

C. What are the New Things God is doing? (42:9)

## I. Those Who Trust in Idols Won't Be Singing (41:1-7, 21-29)

### A. 41:1 Bring Your Best Stuff

- i. 40:15, 31

### B. 2-4 God offers first: *"I roused one from the east..."*

### C. What do the nations have for strength?

- i. They encourage one another on in their pseudo gods.
- ii. Man, the created, creates from lifeless stuff an idol and declares, "It is good."

### D. The trial continues (vs. 21ff):

- i. Behold, you are less than nothing... (24)
- ii. Those who trust in idols have no reason to sing, because they trust in nothing.

## II. The Chosen Servants of God Will Be Singing (41:8-20)

### A. On what do the people of God base their confidence?

### B. Descriptions of Israel

- i. 14 "O **worm**, Jacob, O **little** Israel..."

- ii. 17 "poor and needy search for water."

### C. The description of God:

- i. Redeemer – Kinsman. (14)

- ii. Holy One of Israel – Outside of Creation

### D. Those Who Trust in the Lord will have plenty to sing about!

## III. The Reason For All to Sing! (42:1-9)

### A. In 42:1-4, we are introduced to "My Servant."

### B. It is God's servant who would come to set things right.

- i. The child king (9:6-7); the shoot from the stump of Jesse (11:1-4), "A King will reign with righteousness..." (32:1)

- ii. "Behold my servant" of Isaiah 52:13-15

### C. The Scope of the Servants Work

### D. In His law