

## **Isa 42:1-13**

### **The announcement of the Messiah**

**Oct 17, 2021**

#### **His nature 42:1-4**

“Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. 2 “He will not cry out or raise His voice, Nor make His voice heard in the street. 3 “A bruised reed He will not break And a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish; He will faithfully bring forth justice. 4 “He will not be disheartened or crushed Until He has established justice in the earth; And the coastlands will wait expectantly for His law.”

“**My Servant**” (v. 1) Isa 42:1-3 is quoted by Matthew (12:18-21) referring to Jesus as Messiah. The preceding verses say “But Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there. Many followed Him, and He healed them all, and warned them not to tell who He was. 17 This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet: [Mt 12:15-17] (Isa 49:3, 5, 6, 7; 52:13; 53:11; Ac 3:26; Phil 2:7)

“**He will bring forth justice to the nations**” (v. 1) “**He has established justice in the earth**” (v.4) This speaks of the Messiah coming as a mighty conqueror taking vengeance (Isa 2:4). The teaching and lifestyle of Jesus Christ show him to be just and impartial in his judgments and dealings with people. At the end of the age, God has appointed Jesus Christ to judge and rule with justice.

“**He will not cry out or raise His voice**” (v. 2) His methods shall be quiet and gentle. His teachings and doings will not be done in clamour or noisy demonstration. (Mt 8:4; 9:30; 12:15; 14:13; Jn 5:13; 6:15; 7:3-4; 8:59; 10:40).

“**A bruised reed He will not break**” (v. 3) the image represents the weak and depressed in spirit, the lowly and dejected. Christ would deal tenderly with such, not violently.

“**A dimly burning wick He will not extinguish**” (v. 3) Where the flame of devotion burns at all, however feebly and dimly, Jesus will take care not to quench it. Rather he will tend it, and trim it, and give it fresh oil, and cause it to burn more brightly.

**Note** the twofold account of the coming servant. 1. As weak, despised, rejected and slain. 2. As mighty conqueror taking vengeance. The former class of passages were fulfilled in the first advent. The second await His return for fulfillment.

#### **The Father blesses the world through Jesus 42:5-9**

Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and its offspring, Who gives breath to the people on it And spirit to those who walk in it, 6 “I am the LORD, I have called You in righteousness, I will also hold You by the hand and watch over You, And I will appoint You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations, 7 To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the dungeon And those who dwell in darkness from the prison. 8 “I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images. 9 “Behold, the former things have come to pass, Now I declare new things; Before they spring forth I proclaim them to you.”

#### **“Thus says God the LORD”**

God / El = the singular Creator name of God.

He created the heavens and the earth and gives man breath and spirit. (v. 5)

Lord / Jehovah = the redemptive name of God

He sends and appoints Servant as a covenant to the people. (v. 6; 49:8)

1Tim 2:5-6 For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.

Heb 8:6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises. (Heb 12:24)

He sends and appoints Servant as light to the nations (v. 6)

Jesus is the everlasting light (Isa 60:20); the Light of men (Jn 1:4); the true Light (Jn 1:9); the Light of the world (Jn 8:12); The Light for the Gentiles [nations] (Isa 42:6-7; Ac 13:47); and a Light of revelation (Lk 2:32). [See also Isa 51:4-5; 60:1-3; Ac 26:23; 1Pt 2:9]

He opens blind eyes, and gives light to those who dwell in darkness (v. 7)

The Messiah was to cure both physical and spiritual blindness (Isa 29:18; 32:3; 35:5)

2Cor 4:6 For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Eph 1:18-19 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe ...

He brings out prisoners from the dungeon and sets them free (v. 7)

To deliver from the bondage of sin such as are its slaves and shut up in its prison-houses. (Eph 5:8; Col 1:13; 2Tim 2:26; Heb 2:14-15; 1Pt 2:9)

Rom 8:1-4 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 3 For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,<sup>4</sup> so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

He brings the new things to pass.

2Cor 5:17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. (Rom 6:4; Gal 6:15)

### **Exhortation to praise the Lord 42:10-12**

Sing to the LORD a new song, Sing His praise from the end of the earth! You who go down to the sea, and all that is in it. You islands, and those who dwell on them. 11 Let the wilderness and its cities lift up their voices, The settlements where Kedar inhabits. Let the inhabitants of Sela sing aloud, Let them shout for joy from the tops of the mountains. 12 Let them give glory to the LORD And declare His praise in the coastlands.

#### **"Sing to the LORD a new song"**

This "new song" is in response to the "new things" that God is doing in verse 9.

The expression "sing a new song" is found often in Psalms (33:3; 96:1; 98:1; 144:9; 149:1).

#### **"Sing His praise from the end of the earth"**

Outbursts of singing are a feature of the second half of Isaiah (44:23; 49:13; 52:9; etc.).

They are closely akin to Ps 93; 95 - 100 in theme and language.

The nations will sing with joy at the new things (salvation in Christ) God does.

### **Israel - Chosen for Service**

In what sense was Israel a “chosen” nation? God chose the Israelites to carry out a mission. His choice was based on sovereign purpose and strategy. Israel’s assignment was twofold:

1) to serve as the family through whom the promise and blessing of the Messiah would come (Gen 12:1-3; 15:5-7; 17:4-8).

2) And through Him to be a spiritual light to the other nations of the world (Isa 42:6-7; 44:8; 49:6).

The Hebrews, beginning with Abraham, were given a missionary task to live in the light of what God had revealed to them. He placed them in a strategic locale and enabled them to build a house of prayer for all nations (1Ki 8:41-43). Grateful obedience and faithful witness were the proper responses to God’s call. [from Nelson’s new illustrated Bible commentary]

“**You who go down to the sea**” is similar to Ps 107:23-24.

### **The Messiah is a victorious warrior 42:13**

The LORD will go forth like a warrior, He will arouse His zeal like a man of war. He will utter a shout, yes, He will raise a war cry. He will prevail against His enemies.

#### **“The LORD will go forth like a warrior”**

Ex 15:3 “The LORD is a warrior; The LORD is His name. (Ps 78:63-64; Ex 17:16

Zep 3:17 “The LORD your God is in your midst, A victorious warrior. He will exult over you with joy, He will be quiet in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy.

Rev 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

#### **We do spiritual battle through worship**

2Chr 20 is the story of Jehoshaphat being victorious in battle through worship. (2Chr 20:20-25)

2Chr 20:21 When he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who sang to the LORD and those who praised Him in holy attire, as they went out before the army and said, “Give thanks to the LORD, for His lovingkindness is everlasting.”

Ps 149:5-6 Let the godly ones exult in glory; Let them sing for joy on their beds. 6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand,