

A HIGHWAY IN THE DESERT

I. ISAIAH 40

- A. [Isaiah 40:1-2](#)
 - 1) on an individual level, we let Israel know that in Messiah their sins can be forgiven in this age, but Israel will experience massive warfare again before Jesus' return
 - 2) [Isaiah 12:1](#)
 - 3) the comfort this verse speaks of is not until after Jacob's trouble, after God has forgiven Israel's corporate iniquities
- B. [Isaiah 40:3-4](#)
 - 1) the language is both figurative and literal
 - 2) it is speaking of a literal road and also of bringing down the lofty and arrogant and lifting up the poor and needy
 - 3) mountains are often used to refer to nations and hills to refer to Gentiles
 - 4) it is also speaking of preparing our hearts spiritually for Jesus' coming
- C. [Isaiah 40:5, 10](#)
 - 1) ["the glory of the Lord will be revealed"](#)
 - a) the previous verses are applied to John the Baptist in the Gospels ([Matthew 3:3](#), [John 1:23](#)). there was a partial fulfillment of these verses with regard to John the Baptist but that was not the ultimate fulfillment
 - i. we see another example of the nature of Hebrew prophecy in [Acts 2:16-21](#)
 - 2) the glory of the Lord will be visibly seen by all people, not simply spiritually perceived
 - 3) ["with His arm ruling for Him"](#) Jesus is the arm of the Lord, the manifest presence of God on the earth
 - 4) He will come with both reward and recompense: judgement for the wicked and salvation and rewards for the righteous
- D. Jesus' return will be visible
 - a) [Isaiah 33:17](#)
 - b) [Isaiah 35:2](#)
 - c) [Isaiah 52:8, 10](#)
 - d) [Isaiah 66:14-15](#)
 - e) [Zechariah 12:10](#)
 - f) [John 12:37-38](#)
 - i. ["the arm of the Lord"](#) is always applied to God the Son, both before and after the incarnation
- E. [Isaiah 40:11](#)
 - 1) the Lord is a Shepherd. Just as He was both strong and mighty but also caring and compassionate back in the exodus, so also in the Day of the Lord He will execute punishment for the wicked and gently lead His sheep

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II. ISAIAH 42

A. [Isaiah 42:10-11](#)

- 1) we will all be singing a different song than we sing in this current age
- 2) Kedar and Sela are highlighted because that is currently the region of the children of Ishmael, the Arabs; it is northwest Saudi Arabia, the land of the Sinai, the desert of the exodus

B. [Isaiah 42:13](#)

- 1) the Bridegroom is not just our Husband, He is a Warrior *on our behalf*
- 2) He will execute the vengeance of God, the perfect justice of the perfect One, against His enemies, all those who do not love righteousness
- 3) [Exodus 15:3-4](#)
 - a) Pharoah is a type of the antichrist; Ezekiel ([29:3](#)) and Isaiah ([27:1](#)) refer to him as a leviathan
 - b) the Lord drowned the best of the best - the elite forces of the day - like it was nothing
 - c) the Lord says to remember the mighty things He's already done ([Psalm 105:5](#)) so that we have confidence concerning the things yet to come. This is one of the main ways that we strengthen our hope in the days to come