

[Isaiah 42](#) [Isaiah 44](#)

Isaiah 43

Restoration and Protection Promised

¹But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

⁸Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes,

who are deaf, yet have ears!

⁹Let all the nations gather together,
and let the peoples assemble.

Who among them declared this,
and foretold to us the former things?

Let them bring their witnesses to justify them,
and let them hear and say, "It is true."

¹⁰You are my witnesses, says the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen,
so that you may know and believe me
and understand that I am he.

Before me no god was formed,
nor shall there be any after me.

¹¹I, I am the Lord,
and besides me there is no savior.

¹²I declared and saved and proclaimed,
when there was no strange god among you;
and you are my witnesses, says the Lord.

¹³I am God, and also henceforth I am He;
there is no one who can deliver from my hand;
I work and who can hinder it?

¹⁴Thus says the Lord,
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
For your sake I will send to Babylon
and break down all the bars,
and the shouting of the Chaldeans will be turned to lamentation.

¹⁵I am the Lord, your Holy One,
the Creator of Israel, your King.

¹⁶Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,

¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,

they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

¹⁸Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.

¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

²⁰The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,

²¹the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

²²Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob;
but you have been weary of me, O Israel!

²³You have not brought me your sheep for burnt offerings,
or honored me with your sacrifices.
I have not burdened you with offerings,
or wearied you with frankincense.

²⁴You have not bought me sweet cane with money,
or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices.
But you have burdened me with your sins;
you have wearied me with your iniquities.

²⁵I, I am He
who blots out your transgressions for my own sake,
and I will not remember your sins.

²⁶Accuse me, let us go to trial;
set forth your case, so that you may be proved right.

²⁷Your first ancestor sinned,
and your interpreters transgressed against me.

²⁸Therefore I profaned the princes of the sanctuary,
I delivered Jacob to utter destruction,
and Israel to reviling.

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