

ISAIAH 42

All Poetry

(Chapter 42 Discusses spiritual aspects of the Lord's Servant – Isaiah divides up examples of the servant's work – Many types or leaders exemplify various qualities – In the last days we will see a servant who will fulfill all aspects of these types – Israel is also called as a collective servant with these spiritual, political and temporal qualities when righteous.)

(Servant Song #1 Vs. 1-7 – Jehovah as Servant of God/ King Cyrus - This opening section – has its own Chiastic Structure)

(See Matthew 12: 17-21, Matthew 3:16-17, D&C 45:9, Matthew 11:5, D&C 121: 1-6, Luke 3:5 – Ways Christ accomplishes this work)

A Verse 1 (Behold) My Servant, whom I uphold. (sustain)
Mine Elect, in whom my soul delighteth.

(The Servant's Calling – Election - Anointing)

B I have put *my spirit* upon him,
He shall bring forth *judgment* to the Gentiles (nations).

Verse 2 He shall not cry, nor lift up,
He shall not cause his voice to be heard in the street.

(Spiritual attributes of the Servant – He is anointed with the Lord's spirit so he can bless those of Israel and the World – Not just for his own sake – He will do this work quietly.)

C Verse 3 A bruised reed (thin, hollow, bent), shall he not break,
(and) The smoking flax (dim wick), shall he not quench (snuff out).

(Jesus healed and cared for the physically infirm (bruised reed) and he taught and guided the spiritually weak (smoking flax). A reed requires much water for it to grow properly, a flax or wick burns brightly when it has sufficient oil. Symbolically, Jesus Christ (as the Waters of Life) provides water to the reed, and (as the Anointed One) provides oil to the wick. UI pg. 360)

C Verse 4 He shall bring forth judgment, (justice) (in the cause of) truth.
He shall not fail nor be discouraged (be bruised or grow dim) 'till he (has)
set judgment in the earth, and 'till the isles (await) his law.

(Egypt Imagery – Bruised Reed – Babylonian Imagery – Dim Wick - from vs. 3 – Representing that the Servant comes to the poor and the needy and blesses the whole of the known ancient world from Babylon to Egypt - Bringing Law - Moses Motif – Final Judgment through Christ.)

B Verse 5 **Thus saith God, the Lord:**

(and) He that created the heavens,
He that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it.

(and) He that giveth *breath* unto the people upon it,
He that giveth *spirit* to them that walk therein.

(Here we see attributes of Jehovah as Servant to Mankind – He brings creative powers to his appointed Servant – Chaos and Creation motifs throughout Chapter 41 – 46 – Covenant is taking upon yourself the Word and the Law of God - John says Christ is the Word - This Servant personifies the Word and the Law/Covenant – Becomes a Light to the Nations – see below – Per Bro. Gileadi)

A Verse 6

I, the Lord, have called thee in righteousness and I, will

hold thine hand. (I will grasp you by the hand)

(and)

I have kept (created) thee; I have given thee for a *covenant* of the people, for a *light* (unto) the Gentiles (nations).

(Royal Accession Motif – Grasping by the hand in Covenant – Servant/Vassal – Covenant /Light – Metaphors of Davidic King/Messiah - This can refer to King Cyrus also – Mesopotamian Kings called a Light/Sun – King David called a light to his people – The Sun/Light is healing and life giving as is following the Covenant and the Covenant Servant – per Bro. Gileadi)

(Part of A)

Verse 7

(and)

To open the blind eyes; to bring out the prisoners from the prison,
To bring them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

Verse 8

I am the Lord; that is my name:

(and)

My *glory* will I not give to another,
Neither my *praise* will I give to graven images.

(Glory and praise should be given to God, not to material things/idols.)

Verse 9

(Behold)

A The former things are come to pass,
B The new things do I declare.

A Before things spring forth,
B I tell you of them.

(Idolatry – Causes blindness - Referring also to prophecies of former events/foretelling of future events)

Verse 10

(and)

Sing unto the Lord, a New Song,
Sing his praise, from the end of the earth.

(We read of many “New Songs” in the Bible (Ps. 40:3, 98:1, 149:1, Rev. 5:9, 14:3, D&C 84:98) – UI pg. 363– i.e. Joy regarding King Cyrus’ Edicts – A “New Song” was created.)

(Let) the sea, and all (inhabitants) therein, (Sing (Roar) his praise)

(Let) the isles, and all inhabitants thereof. (Sing his praise)

Verse 11

Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice.
Let the villages that Kedar doth inhabit lift up their voice.

(“Wilderness Cities” – Centers of the Caravan Trade – Nomadic Tribes – “Villages of Kedar” – Places in the Oases – occupied by settled Arabs)

Let the inhabitants of the rock sing,
Let them shout from the top of the mountain.

(“Rock Dwellers” – Those of Sela or Petra – “Rock”)

Verse 12
(and) Let them give *glory* unto the Lord,
Let them declare his *praise*, in the islands.

Verse 13
The Lord shall go forth as a mighty man,
He shall stir up jealousy (his passions) like a man of war.

He shall (give the war) cry,
He shall roar (raise the shout of victory); he shall prevail against his
enemies.

(Type of a king and not of a servant – Type of David – Like a Lion.)

Verse 14
(and) I have long time holden my peace; I have been still,
I have refrained myself.

Now, I will cry like a travailing woman,
Now, I will (breathe hard and fast and) destroy and devour at once.

Verse 15
(and) I will (lay) waste mountains and hills,
I will dry up all their herbs. (vegetation)

(and) I will make the rivers islands,
(and) I will dry up the pools.

Verse 16
(And) I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not,
I will lead them in paths that they have not known.

I will make darkness light before them,
I will make crooked things straight.

(Birth Motif – Birth of Zion - Light – Moses, Davidic King (Cyrus) – Showing a way/Path to return home.)

(and) These things will I do unto (for) them,
I will not forsake them.

Verse 17
But, they (that trust in idols) shall be turned back:

They shall be greatly ashamed that trust in graven images,
They shall be greatly ashamed that say to molten images, “Ye
are our gods.”

Verse 18
(and) Hear ye deaf,
Look ye blind, that ye may see.

Verse 19
(and) Who is blind, but my (own) servant?
Who is deaf, but my (own) messenger^(s) that I sent?
Who is blind as he that is perfect?
Who is blind as the Lord's servant?

Verse 20
Seeing many things; but observing not.
Opening the ears; but hearing not.

(The Lord speaks here of his own messengers in Israel – The Collective Servant of Israel as a whole – Those who are blind are those who worship idols – Captive in Egypt or Babylon.)

Verse 21
The Lord is well pleased for his righteousness' sake:

(and) He will magnify (illuminate) the law,
He will make (the law) honourable (illustrious).

(Moses type leader brings - Light/Law – People said to Moses, "We will do and we will hear." If you will keep the law, you will see and understand – Or you will come under Covenant Curses described in the next verses.)

Verse 22
(But) **This is a people robbed and spoiled:**

(and) They are all of them snared in holes,
They are hid in prison houses.

(and) **A** They are for a prey,
B None delivereth them.

(and) **A** They are for a spoil,
B None saith, "Restore."

Verse 23
Who among you will give ear to this?
Who will harken and hear for the time to come?

Verse 24
Who gave Jacob for a spoil and Israel to the robbers?
Did not the Lord do this; he against whom we have
sinned?

For they would not walk in his ways,
Neither were they obedient unto his law.

Verse 25 (Therefore) He hath poured upon (them) the fury of his anger and the strength of battle.
(and) It hath set (Israel) on fire round about.

Yet, (they) knew not and it burned (them),
Yet, (they) laid it not to heart.

(Israel does not see that this destruction is caused because of their own wickedness, they are still blind.)