

ISAIAH 46

All Poetry

Verse 1

A Bel boweth down, (slumps)
A Nebo stoopeth.

(Bel- The Aramaic form of Baal, the national god of the Babylonians (Isaiah 46:1; Jeremiah 50:2; 51:44). It signifies "lord." - see BAAL.)

(Nebo - A Chaldean god whose worship was introduced into Assyria by Pul (Isaiah 46:1; Jeremiah 48:1). To this idol was dedicated the great temple whose ruins are still seen at Birs Nimrud. A statue of Nebo found at Calah, where it was set up by Pul, king of Assyria, is now in the British Museum.)

(Both idols were carried away into captivity when their lands were taken.)

(and) B Their idols (are loaded) upon the beasts,
B Their idols (are loaded) upon the cattle.

B Their carriages (are) heavy loaden.
B They are a burden to the weary beast.

Verse 2

A They stoop, (sag)
A They bow down together.

(but) *They could not deliver (rescue) the burden,
They themselves are gone into captivity.*

Verse 3

A Hearken unto me, O House of Jacob,
A Hearken unto me, all the remnant of the House of Israel.

A Hearken unto me, all which are borne by me from the belly,
A Hearken unto me, all which are carried from the womb.
(Hear me, all who have been a load on me since birth, borne up by me from the womb.)

Verse 4

(And) B Even to your old age, I am he, (I am present)
(and) B Even to hoar hairs (grey hair) will I carry you.

B I have made:

(and) I will bear you,
(Even) I will carry you,
(and) I will deliver you.

Verse 5

(and) *To whom will ye liken me, and make me equal?
To whom will ye compare me, that we may be like?*

- Verse 6
 (and) They lavish gold out of the bag,
 They weigh silver in the balance.
- (and) **They hire a goldsmith:**
- (and) They maketh (themselves) a god.
 They fall down (to it),
- (yea) They worship (it).
- Verse 7
 They bear (it-the idol) upon the shoulder,
 They carry (it-the idol).
- (and) They set (it) in (its) place and (it) standeth,
 From (its) place shall (it) not remove.
- (Yea) One shall cry unto (it), yet (it) can not answer,
 One shall cry unto (it), yet (it) can not save him out of his trouble.
- Verse 8
 Remember this and shew yourselves men, (come to your senses)
 Bring it again to mind, O ye transgressors.
- Verse 9
 A Remember the former things of old,
 B I am God, and there is none else.
- (and) B I am (divine).
 A Remember, there is none like me.
- Verse 10
 (and) Declaring the end from the beginning,
 Declaring from ancient times the things that are not yet done.
- (and) A Saying, "My counsel shall stand,"
 A Saying, "I will do all my pleasure."
- Verse 11
 B Calling a ravenous bird from the east,
 B Calling the man that executeth my counsel from a far country.
- (Ravenous bird is most likely a reference to Cyrus who came from the east (Persia) and more fully to the Savior at his second coming who will come from the east to execute Gods' judgment Rev. 7:2)
- (yea) A (What) I have spoken; I will also bring it to pass.
 A (What) I have purposed (planned), I will also do it.
- Verse 12
 Hearken unto me, ye stout-hearted, (stubborn-hearted)
 Hearken unto me, ye that are far from righteousness.

Verse 13

(and)

I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off,
My salvation shall not tarry.

(and)

I will (grant) salvation in Zion,
I will (grant) to Israel my glory.

Statues of Nebo – British Museum

