

Comfort is Coming- 1

- Wrote during the Assyrian captivity & foretold the Babylonian Capt.
 - The Jews were about to endure a hard time.
- Isaiah is a mini Bible. (66 Books- 39 & 27)
 - Chapter 40 is the transition chapter.
 - Begins with John the Baptist & Ends with New heaven & earth.
- Theme is “Behold your God” in verse 9.
 - Fix your eyes on, see w/ attention, observe w/ care.
 - Jn. 1:29, 19:14**

Isa. 40:1-8 -The transition begins with comfort.

I. The Coming of Comfort (1-2)

1. Isaiah has spoken much about sin, justice, & judgment.
 - What is the O. T. all about? (Law & justice.)*
 - God has executed justice on Israel.
2. God begins to speak of comfort even before the captivity.
 - ”To strengthen, invigorate, cheer, strengthen the mind when depressed.
 - A word of conviction must follow with a word of comfort.
3. A big change is coming. Greatest event in human history
 - Justice is accomplished. (vs. 2)
 - (*“Double for her sins” illustration at bottom.*)
4. Comfort ye, Comfort ye, is the heart cry of God.
 - The God of all comfort- II Cor. 1:3-4
 - Holy Spirit is Comforter- Jn. 14:16, 26

II. The Coming of John the Baptist (3-4)

1. One was to come before Christ- **Mk. 1:1-9**
2. He is only a voice- **Jn. 1:19-23**

3. The purpose of the voice.

-Prepare the way for Christ. Announce His coming.

-Prepare the minds & hearts to receive Christ.

-Preach repentance & comfort.

III. The Coming of Jesus Christ (5-8)

1. God's Glory was revealed to man.

-God manifest in the flesh. Never ceased to be God.

-Fully God & fully man yet w/o sin.

2. God walked this earth for all to see.

-Man saw with their eyes & ears. **II Pet. 1:15-18**

-Miracles, healing, teaching.

3. God spoke of His coming from the beginning.

-Gen. 3:15, I Pet. 1:20, Titus 1:2, Rev. 13:8.

-Unfolding drama of redemption- Scarlet thread.

4. All that some are trusting in: life, achievement, possession.

-Evolution, science, philosophy, knowledge, own beliefs.

-Will all fade but what God said will stand in the end.

Conclusion

We are compared to grass that lives & then dies, Where is the comfort?

-I Pet. 1:23-25

-We are frail & feeble but God's Word is sure & secure.

-We have Comfort in His Word and Second Coming.

Application

-We all have the job of John the Baptist today, preparing His way to others.

-What are you doing to prepare the way of God into the hearts of others?

(Double for all her sins Illustration)

A mortgage or debt was written and nailed to the door for all to see. The other kept a copy until paid off and then nailed it to the other post. The sins of Jerusalem were on one post and paid for by Jesus Christ in the other post.