The God of Salvation, Creation and Situation

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I. The God of Salvation

- Isa 40:1 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.
- Isa 40:2 Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.
- Isa 40:3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
- Isa 40:4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:
- Isa 40:5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see *it* together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.
- Isa 40:6 The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh *is* grass, and all the goodliness thereof *is* as the flower of the field:
- Isa 40:7 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass.
- Isa 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.
- Isa 40:9 O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!
- Isa 40:10 Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong *hand*, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward *is* with him, and his work before him.
- Isa 40:11 He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, *and* shall gently lead those that are with young.

A. The God of all Comfort

- 2Co 1:3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;
- 2Co 1:4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.
- 2Co 1:5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.
- 2Co 1:6 And whether we be afflicted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation.
- 2Co 1:7 And our hope of you is stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.
- 2Co 1:8 For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life:
- 2Co 1:9 But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:
- 2Co 1:10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;
- 2Co 1:11 Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift *bestowed* upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

B. The God who is Comfort

- Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
- Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
- Joh 14:18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.
- Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.
- Joh 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

C. The greatest comfort we have comes from the hope of salvation to eternal life

- 1Th 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.
- 1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

- 1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.
- 1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
- 1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
- 1Th 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

D. The comfort that comes from knowing that the hope of salvation is a certain hope

- Tit 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;
- Tit 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;
- Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us...
- Tit 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;
- Tit 3:6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;
- Tit 3:7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

II. The God of Creation

- Isa 40:12 Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?
- Isa 40:13 Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him?
- Isa 40:14 With whom took he counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?
- Isa 40:15 Behold, the nations *are* as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.
- Isa 40:16 And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering.
- Isa 40:17 All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.
- Isa 40:18 To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?
- Isa 40:19 The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains.
- Isa 40:20 He that *is* so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree *that* will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, *that* shall not be moved.
- Isa 40:21 Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?
- Isa 40:22 *It is* he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof *are* as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:
- Isa 40:23 That bringeth the princes to nothing, he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity.
- Isa 40:24 Yea, they shall not be planted; yea, they shall not be sown: yea, their stock shall not take root in the earth: and he shall also blow upon them, and they shall wither, and the whirlwind shall take them away as stubble.
- Isa 40:25 To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.
- Isa 40:26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these *things*, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that *he is* strong in power; not one faileth.
- Isa 40:27 Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the LORD, and my judgment is passed over from my God?

A. Everybody, anywhere, who looks up, owes God glory because of His creation

- Psa 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handy work.
- Psa 19:2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.
- Psa 19:3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

B. Only a fool would not glorify God for His creation

- Rom 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:
- Rom 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.
- Rom 1:22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

C. Creation should bring us to our knees before such a God

- Job 38:1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said,
- Job 38:2 Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?
- Job 38:3 Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.
- Job 38:4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.
- Job 38:5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?
- Job 38:6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;

- Job 38:7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?
- Job 38:8 Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb?

III. The God of our Situation

- Isa 40:28 Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, *that* the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? *there is* no searching of his understanding.
- Isa 40:29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.
- Isa 40:30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:
- Isa 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

A. To rise above the troubles (whether by flying with eagles or walking on waves)

- M at 14:22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.
- Mat 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.
- Mat 14:24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.
- Mat 14:25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.
- Mat 14:26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.
- Mat 14:27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.
- Mat 14:28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.
- Mat 14:29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.
- Mat 14:30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.
- M at 14:31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?
- Mat 14:32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.
- Mat 14:33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

B. Patiently waiting for the Lord

- Lam 3:17 And thou hast removed my soul far off from peace: I forgat prosperity.
- Lam 3:18 And I said, My strength and my hope is perished from the LORD:
- Lam 3:19 Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall.
- Lam 3:20 My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.
- Lam 3:21 This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.
- Lam 3:22 It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.
- Lam 3:23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.
- Lam 3:24 The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.
- Lam 3:25 The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him.
- Lam 3:26 It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.
- Rom 8:24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?
- Rom 8:25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.