

**Isaiah 43****5-18-05****“You Are Mine!”****1. Intro:**

- 1.1. If you don't get anything out of tonight's chapter you are (a) Spiritually dead (b) Emotionally dead or, (c) Brain dead.
- 1.2. When I miss my mom, who died 21 yrs ago, I day dream for a few minutes about her love for me. How she **showed** it (back rubs, prayer for me), how she expressed it **verbally** (on her death bed).
  - 1.2.1. It's just as right & healthy to do the same about our Great Redeemer! (**What** did he say again? - **How** did he show it?)
- 1.3. Oh, that you would walk away from here tonight saying, my God is Good!

**2. YOU ARE MINE! (1-12)**

- 2.1. **Divine Care!** (1-7) [Unique relationship]
  - 2.1.1. He is Sovereign... & Lovely!
  - 2.1.2. (1a) **redeemed you** = I've been purchased.
  - 2.1.3. (1b) **called you by your name** = very personal.
    - 2.1.3.1. **“He calls his sheep by name & leads them out”** Jn.10:3
  - 2.1.4. (1c) **you are Mine** = ownership. (girlfriend/boyfriend – when this is expressed for the 1<sup>st</sup> time!) **“Be Mine!”**
  - 2.1.5. (2) **I will be w/you = security**. {a constant refrain in Scripture}
  - 2.1.6. (2,3) **not overflow, not burn, not scorch** = care & concern.
  - 2.1.7. (4) **precious, honored, I have loved you** = tender feelings expressed.
- 2.2. (1) **Formed** – (yatzar) Through the squeezing into shape.
  - 2.2.1. The shaping or forming of the object involved.<sup>1</sup>
  - 2.2.2. Usually translated as “pottery”.
  - 2.2.3. It is used of his preordained purposes.
  - 2.2.4. **Q: What state of firmness/softness have you been in His hands lately?**
  - 2.2.5. **Q: Would you like it better if He left you alone to be shapeless?**
- 2.3. (2) This seems to assume that **you will** go through these!
  - 2.3.1. **But the emphasis is on “through!”**
    - 2.3.1.1. **[There will be testing days...but I will bring you through!]**
  - 2.3.2. (Spurgeon) **“I owe more to the fire, and the hammer, and the file, than to anything else in my Lord's workshop.”**

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<sup>1</sup> TWOT

- 2.3.3. **Caution:** don't expect God to **open the paths** before you come to them...that's **not** how He works!
- 2.3.4. Neither does He **provide help** before help is needed.
- 2.3.5. Neither does He **remove obstacles** before we reach them.
- 2.3.6. Neither does He **clear many miles of road ahead** before us.
- 2.3.7. **But He promises to do it step by step! His hand is outstretched!**
- 2.3.8. You cannot have dying grace before your time to die. Right now you fully need living grace, you'll receive dying grace when that time comes!<sup>2</sup>
- 2.3.8.1. **Our 1<sup>st</sup> building project:** loan refused; \$50,000 to start project; we did & right before it ran out we got the loan.
- 2.4. (3) God gave these countries to **Cyrus**(Persian ruler) as a ransom payment to redeem Israel from Babylon.
- 2.4.1. And He gave His own Son as a ransom for lost sinners.
- 2.5. (7) **Q: What are you created for? - My glory!**
- 2.5.1. Rom.11:36 "**For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.**"
- 2.6. **No Other God!** (8-13)
- 2.7. (10-12) He alone is the Savior!
- 2.8. We are called to be His witnesses – of His **nature & activity!**
- 2.8.1. The content of our Witness ought to be His nature & His activity.
- 2.8.2. He has **declared, saved, & proclaimed.**
- 2.9. (13) And he will **keep you safe** for all the work He has for you to do!
- 2.9.1. **Q: Does that sound like Jn.10 again?**
- 2.10. (8,9) The purpose of being a witness has been, & will always be, to let the world know the truth about God in the light of the *spiritual* blindness & deafness of society.<sup>3</sup>
- 2.10.1. 3 see vs.10 **know, believe, understand.**
- 2.10.2. **See 2 Kings 4:9** – Basic ethics requires that good news not be kept secret.
- 2.10.2.1. "Evangelism is one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread."
- 2.11. **A New Exodus!** (14-21)
- 2.12. (16,17) Deliverance of Israel at the Red Sea.

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<sup>2</sup> J.R.M.; Streams in the Desert; pg.20.

<sup>3</sup> Isaiah; Philip Hacking

- 2.13. (18-21) What would be greater than His deliverance of the Red Sea event? Freedom from Babylon; & The Millennium! (ch.35)  
 2.13.1. Forget the failures of the **past**, witness for Him in the **present**, & claim His promises for the **future**.
- 2.14. (19) God's love doesn't change but he is always ready to do something **New**!  
 2.14.1. **Never dwell on** the past...just **learn** from it!
- 2.15. (21) Behind every deliverance is a purpose which is to **live** & **speak** to the **praise of God**!
- 2.16. **Diagnosis!** (22-24)
- 2.17. At the heart of the gospel is the **acknowledgment of sin**, seen not only in acts of **rebellion** but in apathy & boredom towards God.<sup>4</sup> 😞
- 2.17.1. Religion often becomes a wearisome nuisance when the heart of it is lost!
- 2.17.2. Mal.1;13 "You also say, 'Oh, what a **weariness!**' And you sneer at it," Says the LORD of hosts. "And you bring the stolen, the lame, and the sick; Thus you bring an offering! Should I accept this from your hand?"
- 2.17.3. **Q:** Can it be said of you that **you** are weary of God?
- 2.17.4. **Q:** Do you give sacrificially? (not just incense, but sweet incense)
- 2.17.5. **Q:** In Jesus' day much religion had lost its heart & became a burden...**how about today?**
- 2.17.6. **Q:** How can knowing religion is wearisome help us in sharing with people?
- 2.17.7. (24) The Lord accepts our little "*forget-me-nots*, & *love-tokens*" as thought they were intrinsically precious...as we would a small child's lil coloring picture.  
 2.17.7.1. I wonder if our offerings unto God are like the **cat** who brings the dead mouse in the house & lays it at his masters feet!
- 2.18. **Remedy!** (25-28)
- 2.19. **Ambrose**, the early Christian preacher sent **Augustine** to this verse for peace of mind after his conversion experience.
- 2.19.1. It speaks of God's eternal character, & reminds us that God is not only the one who **forgives** but also the one who **forgets** (in the sense of not binging it up to us again!)
- 2.19.2. Remember the gospel we preach today is not only "true", but "tried & true" as it was planned in the heart of God before man's fall.
- 2.19.3. He forgave them **not** because they brought Him sacrifices – for they had no altar in Babylon – but purely because of His mercy & grace!!
- 2.19.4. **Q:** Why should we remember that which God has forgotten?

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<sup>4</sup> Ibid; pg.126