

Isaiah 43:1-13

¹ But now, this is what the Lord says— he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

³ For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead.

GOD IS

⁴ Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life.

WE ARE

GOD WILL

⁵ Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.

⁶ I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’

Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth—

⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

⁸ Lead out those who have eyes but are blind, who have ears but are deaf.

WE WILL

⁹ All the nations gather together and the peoples assemble. Which of their gods foretold this and proclaimed to us the former things? Let them bring in their witnesses to prove they were right, so that others may hear and say, “It is true.”

¹⁰ “You are my witnesses,” declares the Lord, “and my servant whom I have chosen so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.

¹¹ I, even I, am the Lord, and apart from me there is no savior.

¹² I have revealed and saved and proclaimed—I, and not some foreign god among you. You are my witnesses,” declares the Lord, “that I am God.

¹² Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it?”

1

GOD IS

- **FOR HIS PEOPLE.** God is all knowing, all powerful and fiercely loving towards us, His creation, His handiwork, His beloved, the ones He formed and fashioned to be Sons and Daughters, Co-heirs with Jesus Christ.

2

WE ARE

- **Because GOD IS, WE ARE.**
WE ARE: dearly loved, seen, treasured, valued, sought after and created on purpose for a purpose.

So, why does this matter for us tonight? Because our enemy, Satan, hates that we are precious and dearly loved. His intention is to exploit us. He wants to remove all awareness and claim of the position we have in Christ Jesus.

He wants us to be key participants in his deportation program. He wants to mess with our sense of identity, our sense of security, our sense of purpose, and our sense of oneness and belonging in the Family of God. Because, you know what a disassembled army who is weary, wounded, purposeless, insecure and out-of-place is good for? **NOT ONE THING.**

In contrast, do you know what an army of people who are well loved, seen, known, purposeful, intentional, united, standing shoulder to shoulder is good for? **VICTORY.**

We can stand victorious, not because the battle is easy, or because it's won over night...

We can stand victorious because **GOD IS**, so **WE ARE**. Moreover, because **GOD WILL**, so **WE WILL**.

If Satan can convince us that God isn't who He says, it simultaneously unravels and undermines the reality of WHO WE ARE.

That's why God came out swinging – and if you really want to hear all of it, go back home tonight, start in Isaiah 40 and listen for the way God declares, in loudest voice, time and again, exactly **WHO HE IS**, **WHO HIS PEOPLE ARE**, what **HE WILL DO**, and what **WE WILL DO** as God moves in us, then through us.

Isaiah 43:14-19

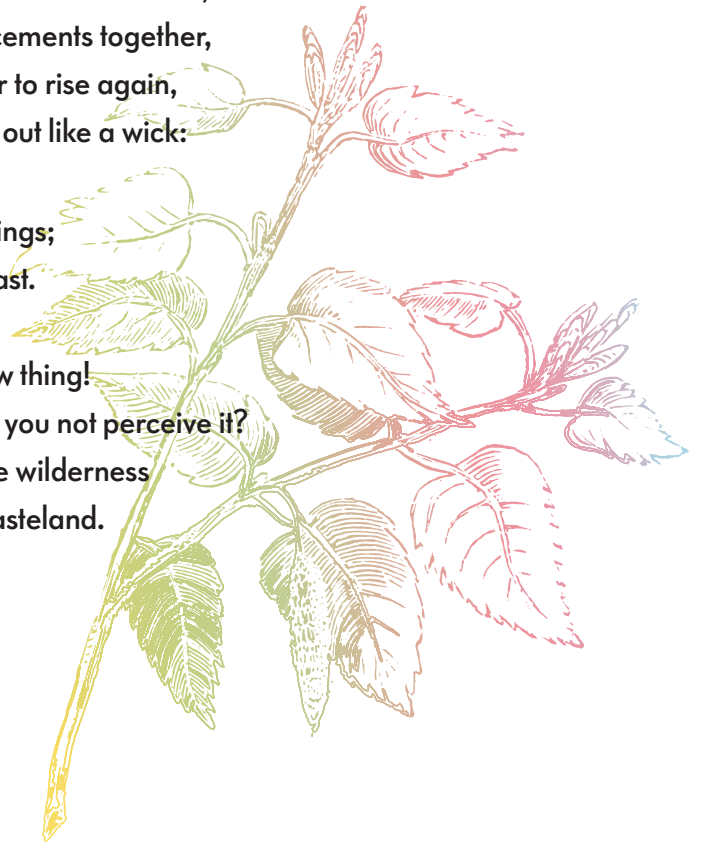
14 This is what the Lord says—
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
“For your sake I will send to Babylon and bring
down as fugitives all the Babylonians,
in the ships in which they took pride.

15 I am the Lord, your Holy One,
Israel’s Creator, your King.”

16 This is what the Lord says—
he who made a way through the sea,
a path through the mighty waters,
17 who drew out the chariots and horses,
the army and reinforcements together,
and they lay there, never to rise again,
extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:

18 “Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.

19 See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.



18 "FORGET THE
FORMER THINGS;
DO NOT DWELL ON
THE PAST."

hands DOWN

POSTURE:

19 "SEE, I
AM DOING
A NEW
THING!"

heads UP

POSTURE:

19 "...I AM MAKING A
WAY IN THE DESERT
AND STREAMS IN THE
WASTELAND."

hearts WHOLE

POSTURE:

21 "... THAT
THEY MAY
PROCLAIM MY
PRAISE."

feet FORWARD

POSTURE: