HANDOUT

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ISAIAH

Sunday, August 24th, 2025

Scripture Focus: Isaiah 42:1-9

Anchor Verse: Isaiah 42:1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

CHAPTER NINE: THE SERVANT'S MISSION AND MAJESTY.

Introduction – Behold the Servant

With Isaiah 42 we step into the first of the great Servant Songs. God calls His people to fix their gaze not on idols, not on nations, but on His Servant. The word "Behold" demands attention. Here is God's chosen One, upheld, anointed, and sent with a mission of redemption, justice, and covenant. This Servant is none other than Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

1. THE SERVANT IS GOD'S CHOSEN REDEEMER (V. 1)

- "My servant... mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth."
- Christ is upheld by the Father, chosen before the foundation of the world, and anointed by the Spirit.
- He brings *justice* (mishpat)—not mere fairness, but the setting right of all things.

Application: Christ is God's answer to the brokenness of the world. Trust His justice.

2. THE SERVANT WORKS WITH MEEKNESS AND MERCY (VV. 2–3)

- He does not shout, dominate, or force His way.
- He is tender toward the weak:
 - o *Bruised reed*—those who are barely standing.
 - o Smoking flax—faith that is faint but alive.
- Christ restores rather than crushes; strengthens rather than extinguishes.

Application: He meets us in weakness with compassion and patience.

3. THE SERVANT WILL NOT FAIL (V. 4)

- He is undeterred by opposition or weariness.
- His mission is global: "set judgment in the earth... the isles shall wait for his law."

Prophetic Note: This points to the future reign of Christ, when all nations will submit to His righteous rule.

Application: You can rest in Christ's unstoppable purpose.

4. THE SERVANT IS SENT BY THE SOVEREIGN CREATOR (VV. 5–7)

- God the Creator sends the Servant with full authority.
- "I the LORD have called thee... will hold thine hand... will keep thee."
- The Servant Himself is the covenant and the light to the nations.
- Mission:
 - o Open blind eyes.
 - o Free prisoners from bondage.
 - Shine light into darkness.

Gospel Insight: Christ frees not only the body but the soul from sin's prison.

5. THE SERVANT BRINGS GLORY TO GOD AND LIGHT TO THE WORLD (VV. 8–9)

- God will not share His glory with idols.
- The Servant reveals God's glory, He is the visible image of the invisible God.
- Prophecy authenticates His mission: the God who declared the past now declares the future.

Application: Worship belongs to God alone, revealed in His Son.

CONCLUSION: BEHOLD AND BELIEVE

This Servant Song reveals the heart of Jesus' mission:

- He does not shout, but He saves.
- He does not break, but He binds.
- He does not fail, but He finishes.

The call remains: "Behold my servant" (Isaiah 42:1). Look to Him, trust Him, and find hope in His mission and majesty.

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Psalm 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.