

“Speak comfort to Jerusalem”

Isaiah 40:1–2 (NKJV)

1 “Comfort, yes, comfort My people!” Says your God.

2 “Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD’s hand Double for all her sins.”

Speak to their attention;

the time of these (40-48) prophecies is the later part of the Babylonian captivity. The immediate comfort was God’s use of Cyrus, to restore Jerusalem. But these chapters also speak of the restoration of Jerusalem from a spiritual Babylon just prior to Christ’s second advent.

Isaiah 40:3–8 (NKJV)

3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God.

4 Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth;

Forerunners made preparations for the coming King of the conquering nation and as that took place for the natural it will also happen for the spiritual

5 The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

the glory of the Lord will be revealed in the salvation of /deliverance of Jerusalem from foreign enemies, just as it glorified kings in history when they were victorious

6 The voice said, “Cry out!” And he said, “What shall I cry?” “All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field.

7 The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people are grass.

8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.”

But Israel must see that man in all his glory is temporal as grass and only God and His word, are eternal, and they must also trust = put all confidence in God and His word

Man is frail and subject to decay even while living, there’s a constant decline toward death.

But the word of our God stands forever = eternal; decay = corruptible

1 Peter 1:22–25 (NKJV)

22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

23 having been born again, **not of corruptible seed but incorruptible**, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

24 because “All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,

25 But the word of the LORD endures forever.” Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

RE: Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, **But the word of our God stands forever.”**

Isaiah 46:10–11 (NKJV)

10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done,
Saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,’

11 Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man who executes My counsel, from a far country.
Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.

Isaiah 55:10–11 (NKJV)

10 “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water
the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the
eater,

11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall
accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

There’s a purpose/ a plan/an end/ a goal God has in mind vs 27-35 the second coming Matthew 24:35
(NKJV)

35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.
(as they presently exist)

Renewed or continued proclamation

Isaiah 40:9–11 (NKJV)

9 O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, You who
bring good tidings, Lift up your voice with strength, Lift it up, be not afraid; Say to the cities of
Judah, “Behold your God!”

10 Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand, And His arm shall rule for Him;
Behold, His reward is with Him, And His work before Him.

11 He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them
in His bosom, And gently lead those who are with young.

Ezra 1:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of
Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he
made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying,

2 Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD God of heaven has
given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah.

Isaiah 41:27 (NKJV)

27 The first time I said to Zion, ‘Look, there they are!’ And I will give to Jerusalem one who
brings good tidings.

Isaiah 52:7 (NKJV)

7 How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"