



## *The Declaration Of God*

The scriptures tell us that God had a plan in place from the foundation of the world to save mankind (**Eph 1.4, Titus 1.2**) and grant eternal life. There is much debate in the world, and always has been, as to what one should believe. Many have proposed various ideas, some claiming that they were divine and could lead others to a better world. As we look at history we find that there is only one person that had a foundation laid in prophecy and the establishment of a nation that would bring him into the world. That is the role that Christ fulfilled in God's plan to redeem mankind. Isaiah speaks of Christ and his work that would bring the light of God into the world and it is writings such as this that set the Bible apart from all other belief systems in the world. No other religion has the depth or background to support the claims made by their founders and followers. Isaiah wrote during a period of time which was marked by a general digression away from the Lord that eventually resulted in the captivity of the children of Israel. Rebuking those of his day for serving idols, Isaiah gave a view of what God had in store for the future. In spite of their idolatry God refers to Israel or Jacob and indicates that there is a purpose for the people. ***"But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend."*** (**Isa 41.8**). God promised Abraham that through him all nations would be blessed (**Gen 18.18**). The nation of Israel was therefore established to further that purpose. The history of the children of Israel is no different from any other people. In spite of the revelation of God's laws and leadership through faithful judges, kings and prophets, the people eventually fell away. In spite of this however, God would accomplish his own purpose, demonstrating that the work of God will be done and is not dependent on the actions of mankind. Isaiah talks of this as he reveals God's message during troubled times. Isaiah tells us that it is not in man to know or reveal the truths that God declared in his word. ***"Who hath declared from the beginning, that we may know? and beforetime, that we may say, He is righteous? yea, there is none that sheweth, yea, there is none that declareth, yea, there***

***is none that heareth your words."*** (**Isa 41.26**). Truth comes from God and he has revealed that truth in the scriptures. Mankind has shown that we lack the ability to understand God's will outside of what is revealed. Jeremiah states, ***"O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps."*** (**Jer 10.23**). The history of Israel, and the world, confirms that humans have a tendency to serve our own interests, giving in to the weaker elements of our nature. Such was the case with God's own people who departed from the ways of the Lord. Isaiah continues, stating, ***"For I beheld, and there was no man; even among them, and there was no counsellor, that, when I asked of them, could answer a word."*** (**Isa 41.28**). In order to be pleasing to God it was necessary that we know the will of the Lord and to that end Christ came into the world. To counsel and guide all of humanity in the ways of truth. Isaiah tells of one who would bring truth and direction to mankind, not to the children of Israel alone, but to all of mankind. ***"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."*** (**Isa 42.1**). The result of this is also stated as well. ***"He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law."*** (**Isa 42.4**). From the scriptures we learn that it was Christ who was declared to be the final word on judgment and truth. Through his appearance in the world the promise made to Abraham would be fulfilled and that all nations would be blessed. God declared this from the beginning and there is no other that can lead us to the Father. As Christ stated, ***"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."*** (**John 14.6**). Only through Christ is there salvation and only through God's revealed word do we know truth.

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