

The background features a central diamond shape with a fine grid pattern. This diamond is set against a larger, multi-colored background of overlapping geometric shapes like triangles and rectangles in shades of green, yellow, orange, and red. The overall effect is a vibrant, abstract composition.

BEHOLD – TAKE A GOOD LOOK!

Isa. 40:10-11

*“Behold, the Lord will return!”*

Isa. 40:12 Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

13 Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or *being* his counsellor hath taught him?

14 With whom took he counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

15 **Behold, the nations *are* as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance:** behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

16 And Lebanon *is* not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering.

17 All nations before him *are* as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.

Our theme this year is...

VISION                      20/20  
HIS VISION.              OUR FOCUS.

During the last couple of months, we have been observing situations where men and women in the Scriptures faced unforeseeable circumstances and walked by faith as they encountered them. A few weeks ago we shifted our focus to begin a new series...

**BEHOLD – TAKE A GOOD LOOK!**

Last week, we began looking at Isaiah, chapter 40, which is packed full with wonderful truth about the greatness and power of God. We began in Isa. 40:10-11, with “**Behold**, *the Lord will return!*” We focused upon...

## I. THE DEPICTION OF GOD’S POWER AND COMPASSION 40:10-11

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent of the Lord Jesus Christ is the subject of our “behold” this morning.

A. Seeing the Promise of the Lord’s Advent, 40:10a  
“**Behold**, **the Lord GOD will come with strong *hand*, and his arm shall rule for him...**”

- Isaiah prophesied the First and Second Advents of Christ:
- Just as surely that the 1<sup>st</sup> Advent occurred that night in Bethlehem, so will the 2nd Advent occur in the very near future.
- Such a promise should give us confidence to continue to *live by faith*, including days of the pandemic!

B. Seeing the Presentation of the Lord's Acknowledgement, 40:10b "...**behold**, his reward is with him, and his work before him."

❖ We are to BEHOLD, that there is a future reward for faithful believers.

Rev. 22:12 And, **behold**, I come quickly; and **my reward is with me**, to give every man according as his work shall be.

❖ The reward is correlated to our faithfulness in “His work.” – v. 10b

❖ Believers are expected to engage in a ministry that is a work and labor of love.

❖ Rewards follow the Judgment Seat of Christ.

C. Seeing the Provision of the Lord's Assurance,  
40:11 (**His compassion to us!**)

- The Lord is our Provider – “He shall feed his flock like a shepherd...” (Psa. 23:1)
- The Lord is our Protector – “...he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom...” (Mt. 11:28-30) (**When the adversary roars, run to the Shepherd!**)
- The Lord is our Pilot – “...*and* shall gently lead those that are with young.”



This morning we consider Isa. 40:12-17, and...

## II. THE DECLARATION OF GOD'S POWER OVER CREATION, 40:12-17

### A. The Perspective of God's Power over Creation, 40:12-14

Isa. 40:12 Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

13 Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or *being* his counsellor hath taught him?

14 With whom took he counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

❖ The Rhetorical Questions for Mankind to Consider:

- “Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand,
- and meted out heaven with the span, and

- comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and
- weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?
- Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or *being* his counsellor hath taught him?
- With whom took he counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?”

❖ The Reasonable Consideration for Mankind to Question:

- Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, = **how spectacular is our God?**
- and meted out heaven with the span = **How vast is God's outreach?**
- comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure = **How awesome is God's precision?**
- weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance? = **How staggering is God's omniscience?**

- Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or *being* his counsellor hath taught him? **How phenomenal is God's knowledge?**
- With whom took he counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding? **How immeasurable is God's eternal individual uniqueness?**

Isa. 55:8 For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

9 **For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

❖ Our Creator wants us to know Him, and His greatness:

Isa. 43:10 Ye *are* my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: **that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I *am* he: before me there was no God formed**, neither shall there be after me.

Isa. 45:5 **I *am* the LORD, and *there is none else, there is no God beside me***: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: ...

18 For thus saith **the LORD that created the heavens;**  
**God himself** that formed the earth and made it; **he**  
hath established it, **he** created it not in vain, **he**  
formed it to be inhabited: ***I am the LORD; and there is***  
***none else.***

❖ The Creator of the universe has preeminence over all.

Col. 1:16 For **by him were all things created**, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; **that in all things he might have the preeminence.**



## B. The Prominence of God's Power over All Citizens, 40:15-17

Isa. 40:15 **Behold**, the nations *are* as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: **behold**, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

16 And Lebanon *is* not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering.

17 **All nations before him *are* as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.**

❖ In comparison to the Creator, EVERY THING else is insignificant, including man:

Psa. 8:4 **What is man, that thou art mindful of him?**  
and the son of man, that thou visitest him? (Psa 144:3)

❖ When the Creator is exalted, mankind is humbled:

Isa. 2:11 **The lofty looks of man shall be humbled,**  
and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down,  
and **the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.**

❖ Yet, the Creator, by His love, mercy, and grace, has placed man in a position to be over the works of His hands:

Heb. 2:6 But one in a certain place testified, saying, **What is man, that thou art mindful of him?** or the son of man, that thou visitest him?

7 Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and **didst set him over the works of thy hands:**

❖ The Creator of this universe is concerned with insignificant man:

Mt. 10:29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

31 Fear ye not therefore, **ye are of more value than many sparrows.**

Psa. 147:4 He telleth **the number of the stars**; he calleth them all **by their names.**

❖ He Who is all powerful, condescends to our level because of His love for us.

Jn. 15:9 As the Father hath loved me, **so have I loved you**: continue ye in my love.

1 Jn. 4:19 **We love him**, because **he first loved us**.

❖ The One who created all things, promises to be WITH us.

Isa. 41:10 Fear thou not; **for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God:** I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Rom. 15:13 Now **the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,** that ye may abound in hope, **through the power of the Holy Ghost.**

Eph. 3:20 Now **unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think,** according to the power that worketh in us,

❖ The One Who has the power of creation, allows us to tap into His power.

Col. 1:11 Strengthened with all might, **according to his glorious power**, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

## Conclusion

Psa. 33:6 **By the word of the LORD were the heavens made;** and all the host of them **by the breath of his mouth.**

Col. 1:9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10 **That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;**



11 Strengthened with all might, **according to his glorious power**, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 **Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness**, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 **In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:**