

Isaiah 44 sits within the second major section of the book of Isaiah (chapters 40–55), often addressed to God’s people in the context of exile. These chapters look ahead prophetically to the Babylonian captivity and the discouragement Israel would face there. Surrounded by pagan nations and impressive idol worship, the exiles would be tempted to doubt the Lord’s power or uniqueness. Isaiah 44 reassures them that the God of Israel is still sovereign, still their Redeemer, and utterly unlike the idols of Babylon. The chapter combines comfort and confrontation: comfort in God’s promise to pour out His Spirit and restore His people (vv.1–5, 21–28), and confrontation in its exposure of the foolishness of idolatry (vv.6–20). The message is clear: despite exile, the Lord alone is God, and He will act to save.

When have you felt exposed or embarrassed by something you have said or done? What happened?

Read Isaiah 44:6-20

1. In verse 6-8, how does the Lord describe Himself?
2. How do these statements set God apart from idols?
3. Why do you think God challenges, “Who then is like me?” (v.7)
4. According to verses 9–17, how are idols made? What details stand out to you in Isaiah’s description of the craftsman?
5. What is ironic about the way the same piece of wood is used in verses 15–17? Why do you think Isaiah highlights this?
6. In verses 18–20, how does the Lord describe the spiritual condition of idol-makers? What phrases seem especially strong or significant? See also Romans 1:21–23
7. What does the image of “feeding on ashes” (v.20) communicate about idolatry?
8. How does that picture deepen your understanding of spiritual emptiness?
9. How does this passage highlight the seriousness of idolatry?
10. Modern idols are rarely carved from wood. What are some contemporary examples of things people look to for ultimate security or identity?
11. What questions can help us identify idols in our own hearts? For example: What do I fear losing most? What do I rely on for security? See Matthew 6:21 and Ezekiel 14:3.
12. How can God use disappointment to expose false trusts? Compare with Psalm 20:7 and Hebrews 12:10–11.
13. In practical terms, what does it look like this week to trust God as your “Rock” and “Redeemer”? How can you consciously shift from self-reliance or false security to dependence on Him? Consider Proverbs 3:5–6, 1 Peter 5:7, and Jude 24–25.

Prayer Points

Please pray for Healing on the Streets team this week. Pray for miracles, unity and opportunities as they share the love of God with the people.

BMS Prayer - Pray for the local authorities in Ghana, where the African Oasis Hub is training national mission workers. Localised flooding caused by drains blocked with plastic rubbish often hampers their work. Pray for better waste management.

Sermon Notes

The God W_____ Is

The A_____y of Idolatry

The D_____ of Blindness

The M_____ of Exposure

The T_____ Redeemer

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001



BIBLE STUDY

March 8th 2026

Isaiah 44:6-20 Dumb Idols!

The Book of Isaiah presents powerful prophetic visions that have helped to shape theology, especially regarding God's holiness, judgment, and redemption. Written in a time of political turmoil, Isaiah foretells both near and distant events. Many prophecies have been fulfilled in history and in the life of Jesus Christ. Isaiah predicted the fall of Babylon, the return of Israel from exile, and the rise of Cyrus of Persia by name. Most notably, Isaiah 53 describes a suffering servant whose rejection, suffering, and redemptive death closely parallel the New Testament accounts of Jesus, reinforcing Isaiah's enduring significance.

This series will help us to be faithful as we renew our focus upon the Lord, and fruitful as He fulfils His word.