

# SOUL FOOD

JUNE 8, 2017

**ISAIAH 40:1-31**

**GOD IS GREAT, GOD IS GOOD**

As a child my parents taught me to pray over my food with a very common prayer that began, "God is great, God is good, let us thank Him for our food." Of course, over time this prayer, unfortunately, became mundane and it was as if I could say it in my sleep. This chapter in Isaiah enables us to see in very clear and certain terms that our God is great, our God is good! How does Isaiah show this?

First of all, Isaiah brings a message of comfort from God that includes the principle that God's grace is greater than our sin... "**She has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sin.**" God certainly does confront our sin, but He also brings great comfort to us. In Christ Jesus we especially should live in the reality of the joy of sins forgiven and covered. In Christ our warfare with God is ended. Lay down your arms. Surrender to His all-encompassing love and pardon.

Secondly, God is great because of His Word. Unlike grass and flowers, which are beautiful and useful, the Word of God will last forever. The luster of the things of this world fade over time, but that on which we stand, grace and truth, are forever. We have God's truth, certainty in an uncertain world.

Thirdly, God is great because of His tender love seen even in the light of His being Almighty and all-powerful. What a contrast we find here. God, the Creator and Sustainer of every molecule of the universe, which He upholds by His Word, tenderly shepherds and guards over His children. Think of these words: "**he will gather the lambs in his arms.**" God carries the lambs next to His heart and GENTLY leads those that are with young. God's holiness can feel almost terrifying at times, but in His holiness, He is immensely tender.

He is THE perfect Father because He never grows weary or tired like we do with our children. Our strength will fail but God is the strength (Rock) of our hearts forever. Those who wait upon and serve God will have their strength renewed. Holy Spirit will enable us to soar like eagles rather than just simply slog along like snails. Behold your God!