

Isaiah 43:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

Analysis

After judgment (42:25), God speaks comfort with 'But now.' The Hebrew 'bara' (created) and 'yatsar' (formed) emphasize God's sovereign work in Israel's existence. The threefold assurance—'I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine'—establishes intimate, personal relationship. The covenant formula grounds security in God's ownership.

Historical Context

This addresses exiles who felt abandoned. God reminds them of their origin in His creative and electing love, which cannot be nullified by circumstances. They remain His treasured possession despite judgment.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does knowing God created and formed you personally strengthen your identity?

2. What does it mean to be called by name and claimed as God's possession?

Interlinear Text

בְּעֵקְבָּן	בְּכָאָבָן	יְהִיָּה	אָמָר	כִּי	וְעַתָּה	הָיָה
H6258	H3541	H3068	H559	H1254	H3290	
But now thus saith	the LORD	that created	thee O Jacob			
וַיַּצְרָב	אֶל	יִשְׁרָאֵל	אֵל	תִּירְאָה	כִּי	גָּאַלְתִּי
and he that formed	thee O Israel	H408	H3478	H3372	H3588	not for I have redeemed
H3335						H1350
קָרְבָּנִי	בְּשָׁמְךָ	לִי	לִי	אַתָּה:		
thee I have called	thee by thy name	H0	H8034	H859		
H7121						

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 43:7 (Creation): Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

Psalms 100:3 (Creation): Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Zechariah 13:9 (References Lord): And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Titus 2:14 (Redemption): Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Revelation 5:9 (Redemption): And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

Ephesians 2:10 (Creation): For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Isaiah 43:21 (Parallel theme): This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise.

Isaiah 42:6 (References Lord): I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles;

Isaiah 41:14 (Redemption): Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the LORD, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 44:2 (Creation): Thus saith the LORD that made thee, and formed thee from the womb, which will help thee; Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jesurun, whom I have chosen.