

# Day 22



## **Scriptural Background:** Isa 40

*"3 A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God." Isa 40:3*

Much like the Bible as a whole, the book of Isaiah contains numerous descriptions of judgment *and* astounding promises of restoration. After extended depictions of divine justice, chapter 40 kicks off a section of hope with the words, "'Comfort, comfort [for] my people,' says your God" (40:1). How can this be? How can there be the comfort of renewal after saying such devastating destruction is certain? The answer is not revealed in full until centuries later. When Jesus Christ comes, the authors of the Gospels cite *this* text as being fulfilled in John the Baptist's preceding of Jesus (Matt 3:3). *Jesus* is Yahweh, the LORD, in the flesh (see John 12:39–41). By taking the fullness of divine wrath against sin on Himself, Jesus *is* the way of our restoration. This is how we take comfort in the cross of Christ (2 Cor 1:4–5).

## **Prayer:**

*LORD Jesus, how we praise You for what You have done for us. Open our eyes to wonder at and believe the grand work You have accomplished on our behalf. Give us a proper seriousness about sin, that You might also give us an appropriate leaping for joy at the renewal You have begun for Your people. Help us follow You in the path of Your kind of Life. Amen.*