

NEWSLETTER 2023-1

To: My Fellow Saints and Well Wishers

Date: February 6, 2023

Re: **A Way Provided (Isa. 43:16)**

It is a pleasure and great opportunity reaching out to you once more as we continue by God's grace on our "Pilgrim's Journey." God continue to strengthen, watch over you and supply all your needs in Jesus Christ. My prayers also go with you for your entire family irrespective of their physical locations.

"Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness And rivers in the desert" (Isa. 43:19 NKJV).

Generally, I allow myself time in advance to pray and seek God's direction as to the thought to be shared in any presentation of His Word. Over the past few months I have been having an unusually filled and overflowing schedule and I seemed to have been struggling to get to the message for this newsletter. January 21, 2023 around 2:00AM I was awakened, remained in prayer and around 2:45AM God flooded my heart and mind with a listing based on **"A Spirit of Heaviness" and Christ's role in lifting that load (see Isa. 61:1-6).** Among that listing was Isa. 43:16— "The Way Maker."

The focus of Isa. 43:16 became deeper and deeper and in the wee hours of January 21st, 2023 the development of this newsletter began to come together. **One of** the powerful experiences during those hours was that I seemed to be in contact with some folks who were being addressed with the message God was giving to me, yet no one was clearly recognized. Some days later after I had interacted with a few folks it's obvious some of them were in the thoughts God laid on my heart. The fact is, as believers in Jesus Christ we have been facing challenges one way or the other, especially those who are determined to wholeheartedly serve God? Beloved, God knows our cares and concerns and He is there to supply all our needs! Indeed: **"God do moves in a mysterious way His wonder to perform!"**

Isa. 43:16 NKJV

"Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea And a path through a way in the mighty waters."

Isaiah 43:16 is our primary focus, however, it is a part of the paragraph consisting of verses 14-21 . . . (please read the paragraph). It should also be noted that the Book of Isaiah has so many powerful lessons and a few have been posted on our website (livingwaterstudies.com), including on brief study on Isa. 43:1-7. Also, note that the listing that God laid on my heart on January 21, 2023 will be followed up as He leads. TO HIM BE THE GLORY!!

Isaiah 43:16 assures us of “**A Way Provided**” and this is the subject selected for this short presentation (at least intended to be as short as possible). Beloved, indeed, God provides a way through difficulties (see also Ex. 14:16; Josh. 3:17; Isa. 30:21; 42:16; 49:11 . . . *you may want to read the context of each reference for deeper understanding*). Unfortunately, some of us never seem to discover the treasures within the Word of God and they make light of “Expository Preaching/Teaching” and yet the fact remains if we are going to get deep and discover the treasures of God’s Word the fact must be faced that it will take more than “Leisure Reading.” It requires quality time in God’s presence, His Word, etc. to dig deep and find the treasures. I am taking a brief moment here because of the importance and see the reality that there is a “lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:6). God’s treasures are there for us to discover and to our benefit as a result (Isa. 45:1-25, NB Vv. 2-3; etc.). **Remember, beloved, people do not mine for gold digging with their fingers (hands) but with a tool! Oh! Let us dig in God’s Word and discover His treasures (Prov. 2:1-9, NB Vv. 4-5; etc.).**

In Isaiah 43:16 (include v. 15), I have identified three main points.

1. **Divine Master’s Watchful Care, Protection and Supplying All Needs.**
(See Isa. 43:15-16a).
2. **Deliverance Guaranteed Under Any Circumstance.**
“ . . . who *makes* a way . . .” Isa. 43:16b NKJV).
3. **Dry, Solid and Secured Pathway.**
“ . . . in the sea And a path through the mighty waters.” (Isa. 43:16c).

None of us goes through this life without experiencing difficulties and sometimes the situations seem to get worse or even unchangeable (seemingly). One of the outstanding features in Psalm 23 is the victory that the Good Shepherd guarantees even under the most life threatening situations . . . note carefully the psalmist (David) speaks of **going through: “Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil.”** (Psa. 23:4a) He didn’t get stuck in, kept wandering around, overcome by fear, panic stricken, given to grumbling and a lack of satisfaction, etc. **BUT HE WENT THROUGH!!**

Whatever may have been our experiences or what those of the future may be like, with God we will be able to say: ***“Through it ALL, through it ALL, I’ve learned to trust in Jesus, I’ve learned to trust in God I’ve learned to depend on His Word . . .”*** (“Through It All” by Adrae Crouch . . . *Partial quote*). Beloved, we have gone through and will go through challenging situations but we must remain **wholly committed and keep trusting God**, no matter what comes our way because **He is the way maker!!** As Osinachi Okoro says in the song “Way Maker” (*Partial Quote*):

***Even when I don’t see it, You’re working
Even when I don’t feel it, You’re working
You never stop, You never stop working
You never stop, You never stop working***

Beloved! Irrespective of our challenges, and they will come, we must never give up! Never give in! Never get in the attitude of poor me, pity me! Etc. NEVER **“lose heart”!** (see 2 Cor. 5:7; etc.). Keep your eyes on Jesus, He is the way maker! He will see you through, He will stay by your side continuously, giving you assurance of victory. As noted in the song “It is well with My Soul” *Partial quote*):

When peace like a river attended my way

When sorrows like sea billows roll

Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say

It is well, it is well with my soul

Beloved God will NEVER leave you (us) nor forsake you (us)!! (Deut. 31:6-8; Phil. 4:6-7; Heb. 13:5; etc.).

A. Divine Master Watchful Care, Protection and Supplying All Needs! Isa. 43:15-16a

“I am the LORD, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King. Thus says the LORD, . . .”
(Isa. 43:15-16a NKJV).

This verse contains a reference to the deliverance from Egyptian servitude (bondage, enslavement, etc.)—it presents a major contribution, an authentic declaration and a most powerful illustration along with sacred writers and the perpetual demonstration of God’s merciful interposition in behalf of their nation (Israel) and a strong proof that **Yahweh** was their God.

We know that Isaiah foresaw a time of great difficulty for the Israelites, a time when they would be enslaved by their enemies. Although in captivity because of their transgressions **God had not abandoned them and would bring them out** of their grievous/seemingly intolerable endless suffering (see Isaiah chapters 40-66). Likewise, we had our failures, our sins with consequences but God didn’t abandon us; **His hand of mercy was still stretched out!!** (Psa. 86:15; Isa. 30:18; Lam. 3:22-23; Eph. 2:4-5; Titus 3:5; etc.). MERCY THERE WAS (IS) GREAT AND GRACE WAS (IS) FREE!!

As noted in our text, who is He that watches over Israel and over us, He who watches, provides watchful care and continued protection and supply all our needs assuring our deliverance? He is the **“El Shaddai—or ‘I am the Almighty God’” (Gen. 17:1)**. **He is the God that is more than enough!** (Read again Isa. 43:15-16a). (As it relates to “El Shaddai” see also: Gen. 28:3; 35:11; Matt. 28:18; etc.) Beloved! He is yours and He never changes (Mal. 3:8; Heb. 13:8; etc.). With Him all things are possible, He is able to bring it to pass (Matt. 19:26, Luke 1:37; Eph. 3:20; 2 Tim. 1:12; etc.). **HE IS THE WAY MAKER!! YES, HE IS!! HE IS THE ALMIGHTY GOD!! ABOVE HIM THERE IS NO OTHER!!**

B. Deliverance Guaranteed Under Any Circumstance Isa. 43:16b

“. . . who makes a way . . .” (Isa. 43:16b NKJV)

For Israel, the path from Egypt to their new home was meant to be a path on which they would not come in contact with any trouble and confrontation (see Ex. 13:17-18). In

Christianity we refer to that as the **“Honey-moon Period”**; isn’t that how we all felt when we got saved? We were so overwhelmed with joy . . . yes, “joy unspeakable and fully of glory!!” Indeed, some of us can clearly remember what those early days of our Christian experience were like!!

Time wouldn’t allow for details but just as Pharaoh decided to pursue the Israelites with the intention of returning them to slavery, even so Satan intends to do to ALL genuine believers; as a result he (Satan) consistently persecute every sincere believer, especially those who are determine that they will wholeheartedly serve God, determined NEVER to look back but by God’s grace to press forward . . . **these are the PRIME targets of that old devil our arch-enemy** (John 10:10; 2 Cor. 11:3; 1 John 3:8; Rev. 12:9-10; etc.).

Are you at a seemingly **“dead end?”** There are so many smiling people who are on the surface displaying a harmonious and perfect life but deep inside they are hurting, fearful, hopeless, confused, restless, etc. Israel leaving Egyptian bondage was so great, they were rejoicing, exuberant, etc.; all was looking good after 400 years of grievous/devastating bondage! **The rejoicing/jubilant people, however, came to a “dead end” which obviously had undeniable proof of imminent, catastrophic disaster and there seemed to have been no way out!!** (see Ex. 14, NB Vv. 10-20, highlight Vv. 11-14). Please note again (Isa. 43:16b) “. . . who makes a way . . .”

It is characteristic of God to open a pathway of salvation (deliverance) and security for His people even when the deep—rapid turbulent floods are before them. The standing proof of the divine provision which undoubtedly was the focus that the prophet, Isaiah, had in his perception was the deliverance from Egypt.

Despite all the odds and prevailing circumstances (as relating to Israel in Egyptian bondage), God would act on behalf of His people and in the fullness of time He delivered Israel from Egyptian bandage! He is an “On Time God!” “He will always bring it to pass, because He cares!!” **Here they (The Israelites) were at the Red Sea and were pursued by the mighty, powerful Egyptian army and before them was the sea, on both sides were mountains! THEY WERE TRAPPED!! SO IT SEEMED!! THERE WAS NO WAY OUT!! SO IT SEEMED!! BUT GOD!!**

Bearing the above facts in mind, it is also likely that the prophet, Isaiah, had more in mind of the undeniable fact of God making a way for Israel. The account also presents a most powerful illustration that God was able, is able and will do what is necessary for His people who are the apple of His eyes (Deut. 32:10; Psa. 17:8; Zech. 2:8).

The hymn: “He Is Able” . . . by Gregory F. Ferguson (Partial quote)

Verse 1

He is able, more than able

To accomplish what concerns me today

He is able, more than able

To handle anything that comes my way

Beloved, no matter what comes your way, I once more appeal to you: **“Do not give up on God! Do not give up on God!!!**

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might” (Eph. 1:10 NKJV . . .read verses 10-13)

C. Dry, Solid and Secured Pathway Isa. 43:16c

“ . . . a way in the sea And a path through the mighty waters, . . .” (Isa. 43:16c NKJV).

“ . . . a way in the sea . . .” reference here is being made to the path made through the waters of the Red Sea when the children of Israel were permitted to go through on **dry ground!** (Ex. 14:21-22, 29-31).

The reminder here is that He who made a way through the **sea and a path through the mighty waters** (Isa. 43:16c) is the **“ . . . LORD, the Holy One, The Creator of Israel . . .”** (Isa. 43:15. As noted before He is **The El Shaddai or The Almighty God!** (Gen 17:1; 35:11; etc.) **He is the True and Living God** (Jer. 17:10-18. He is **The Creator and Sustainer** (Gen. 1:1; Neh. 9:6; Rev. 4:11; Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:17; etc.).

Beloved, I know that our hurts differ, our responses differ but we serve the same God who is the same yesterday, today and forever the same (Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8). He wants us to **always cast ALL our cares on Him!!** (Matt. 11:28-30; 1 Peter 5:7). He is our way maker and will definitely make a way for us!! (Isa. 41:10, 13; 43:19; 54:17; etc.).

The path of God leads to the waters!

As you follow **God’s designed path** for your life, it is possible to lead straight through **“mighty waters”** (Isa. 43:16c). This may be a reality, especially if it’s God’s desire to use you to help other’s. If you are to comfort others, you first have to be comforted yourself (2 Cor. 1:3-4). **All of us will face the waters at some stage (see Isa. 43:1-7). No matter what you go through you are never alone and your victory is assured!! (Isa. 43:2).**

D. CLOSING THOUGHTS.**1. Two Quotes:****(a) C. H. Spurgeon:**

“The LORD will make a way for you where no foot has gone before. That which like a sea, threatens to draw you will be a highway for your escape.”

(b) Edward J. Young: (Partial quote)

*The adjective **mighty** (see Isa, 43:16c . . . Insert mine) calls attention to the power of the waters that stood in the way of the deliverance of God’s people. This deliverance forms the background for a consideration of the far greater deliverance that God is to accomplish through His servant. **In as much as God had once done the seemingly impossible in making a path***

through the sea, so in the future He will deliver His people from the spiritual bondage in which they find themselves.” (Emphasis mine).

2. **A thought shared in one of my Altar Workers Lessons . . . Lesson 4 Part A, Page 7.**
 “Know that the Lord, your best problem-solver, desire to hear in prayer every single care, problem, hurt, pain, fear, adversity, failure, hardship, pressure, rejection, worry, anxiety, burden sorrow, heartache and trouble that you may possible experience.”

“Casting ALL your cares upon Him because He cares for you!!” (1 Peter 5:7)

Beloved! God is our way maker, He is working behind the scenes in our lives and He has a good plan for you and a purpose for each of us!! (Psa. 40:5:7; 139:17; Isa. 55:9; Jer. 29:11).

3. **Song by Don Moen: “God Will Make a Way.”**

*God will make a way, where there seems to be no way
 He works in ways we cannot see, He will make a way for me
 He will be my guide, Hold me closely to His side
 With love and strength, for each new day
 He will make a way, He will make a way*

*By a roadway in the wilderness, He'll lead me
 And rivers in the desert will I see
 Heaven and earth will fade
 But His Word still remain
 He will do something new today.*

WEBSITE UPDATE

I have not added a new lesson in the Psalms Series since December 2022 for several reasons, for example, my physical condition which at time was painful to the extent that I had to be in bed a lot. I had surgery on December 28, 2022 and at this time give God praise glory and honor!! While I was still recovering, I was faced with the challenge of training a new set of Altar Workers and since then have been reviewing the manual God helped me put together during 2013 to 2014. The review is in process and I have been accomplishing some necessary goals.

Psalm 22 Part C has yet to be edited and as soon as that has been done it will be loaded to the website. **Psalm 23** has been in process and has been placed on hold for a short while until I have sufficient lessons for the altar workers' classes completed.

Please note that we have been uploading the altar worker lessons to the website and extend an invitation to you to access these lessons at your convenience. You will find them quiet informative and a source of helping in nurturing the believer on any level. At the close of these lessons there is a note about use at New Hope, please do not allow this to stop you from using the lessons such was used to avoid the materials from been used wrongly. It should also be noted that you are aware none of my lessons require any financial obligation or restricted to a particular denomination . . . **it is ALL to the glory of God!!!** Please do not hesitate to use all material on the website to the glory of God!! If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Obviously, your prayers are needed and greatly appreciated. There is work to be done and I depend solely on the grace of God and the love and support of His beloved people irrespective of your local church or denomination . . . **we all serve the same God!** Only let us worship Him in spirit and in truth; walking in the light of His holy Word!!

You are loved and highly appreciated! God richly bless you and your wonderful family!!

Yours-in-Christ

Bishop K. Wright

Cell: 609-571-8468

Website: livingwaterstudies.com

Email: Kingsleywright@yahoo.com