25 November 2012

EVENING WORSHIP

Text: Isaiah 41

Title: "BE NOT DISMAYED, FOR I AM YOUR GOD"

(I) THE PROBLEM OF DISMAY

"Fear not,...be not dismayed..." Isaiah 41:10

1. Struggling with the fear of enemies

- a) Fear and dismay go together (2 Chronicles 32:7)
- b) Fearing the words of the Rabshakeh (Isaiah 37:5)
- c) The Lord had to tell Israel three times not to fear.

2. Struggling with health (Isaiah 38:1-2)

- a) Sickness
- b) Death

3. Struggling with weakness (Isaiah 38:14)

(II) DEALING WITH DISMAY THROUGH A GREATER ASSURANCE OF GOD AS OUR GOD

"Be not dismayed for I am your God" Isaiah 41:10

1. The Lord's performing His words (Isaiah 41:4)

2. The Lord's great promises to His people (Isaiah 41:10)

- a) The promise of His great presence
- b) The promise of His great strength
- c) The promise of His great help
- d) The promise of His great upholding

3. The Lord's power contrasted against the powerlessness of the Idols (Isaiah 41:17-24)

a) Idols

i) Idols unable to show what is to come

ii) Idol's works are nothing

b) God

i) The Lord hearing the prayers of the poor and needy (Psalm 113:5-7)

ii) The hand of the Lord has done this

(III) RESPONSES TO GOD AS OUR GOD

- 1. Greater Appreciation of God as our God (Isaiah 41:20)
- 2. Greater Trust in the Lord and His promises
- 3. Greater Joy in the Lord (Isaiah 41:16)
- 4. Greater commitment to glory only in the Lord (Isaiah 41:16)