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**Isaiah 44-47**

THUS FAR THIS SECTION has consisted of fairly short sentences with frequent and rapid transitions from one theme to another. This characteristic continues to the end of chapter 46. One exception is 44:24-28, where a string of statements is made up of participial clauses, gathering together several strands and reaching a climax in a new revelation of a specific event that the LORD will bring about. (This passage has already been discussed at some length in chapter 3 and that discussion will not be repeated here.)

We will not look in detail at all the material in chapters 44-46, which continues the characteristics that have been carefully examined in the previous chapters and repeats many of the same themes, but will content ourselves with noting new elements that emerge and discussing in more detail the verses that introduce unusual ideas or involve particular difficulties of interpretation.

Except for two phrases (46:8, 12), chapters 44-47 contain no rebuke for Israel. Nothing in them can be compared to the passages at the end of chapters 42 and 43, in which Israel's sin is strongly rebuked.

As in chapter 43, chapter 44 begins with a beautiful picture of future blessing (vv. 1-5), in which much figurative language is used.

(1) But now hear, O Jacob my servant, and Israel, whom I have chosen. (2) Thus says the LORD who made you and formed you from the womb, who will help you. Do not fear, O Jacob, my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen, (3) for I will pour out water on the thirsty land and streams on the