I. The Words of Judgment, Chapters 1 – 39, state the **PROBLEM** addressed in Isaiah.

A. The problem from God’s perspective is simply stated, “Rebellious children.” 1:1-3

B. The consequences of rebellion are identified as many, and as far reaching. 1:4ff.

C. The exhortation in the time of rebellion is, “Hear, Listen.”

D. The invitation in the time of rebellion is, “Come now, let us reason…” 1:18,19

II. The Words of Comfort, Chapters 40 – 66, state the **SOLUTION** to the problem.

A. The words of judgment are tough; the words of comfort are tender. 40:2

B. The words of comfort are realistic.

1. Comfort requires a realistic assessment of mankind. 40:6

2. Comfort requires a realistic assessment of nations. 40:15

3. Comfort requires a realistic assessment of God. 40:18ff.

III. Comfort’s beginning is the recognition of God’s presence. 41:10; 43:5

A. Fear, the thief of comfort and peace, is addressed first. 41:10,14

B. Faith, based on facts – not feelings, is addressed next. 42-43

C. A fact-based faith restores hope in the present and in the future.

D. Redemption connects past, present and future with confident assurance.

IV. Comfort concludes with the recognition of God’s provision. 53-55

A. The Declaration of God’s provision is revealed as, “A tender shoot.” 53:2

B. The Price of the provision of redemption is graphically portrayed. 53

C. The Invitation of the provision is thus offered as, “Without cost.” 55

D. The exhortation for the provision is time-honored, “Repent and believe.”

E. The time for response is, “Now, while he is near.” 55:6

**WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS**

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| 1. When I survey the wondrous cross   On which the Prince of Glory died;  My richest gain I count but loss,  And pour contempt on all my pride.   1. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,   Save in the death of Christ, my God;  All the vain things that charm me most,  I sacrifice them to his blood. | 1. See from his head, his hands, his feet   Sorrow and love flow mingled down.  Did e’er such love and sorrow meet,  Or thorns compose so rich a crown.   1. Were the whole realm of nature mine,   That were an offering far too small;  Love so amazing, so divine,  Demands my soul, my life, my all. |