

# Prepare the Way

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Isaiah 40:3-5

Lately, we have seen lots of road construction in Brooksville. Road closures and detours can be frustrating, but we know the goal. They are preparing the way for us to, eventually, have smooth travel. Isaiah 40 talks about "preparing the way". There was an ancient custom to send a representative ahead to be sure a road was clear before the visit of a king. There could be no rough terrain or obstacles in the road. High and low spots had to be leveled out.

Isaiah paints a word picture of preparing a processional highway for the Lord's coming to Jerusalem. Preparing the way of the Lord doesn't just happen on a road. It happens in our hearts. You see, road work in Brooksville is very much like the preparation God has to do in your hearts:

--Both are expensive--it will cost us something to be ready for God.

--Both must deal with different problems and environments--preparing the way for God means filling every hole and leveling every hill.

--Both take an expert engineer--preparing the way for God means following His plans, not ours.

Jesus came into Jerusalem as a triumphant King. He needed the road prepared for him so he could travel in glory and ease. When the way is prepared, when our hearts are prepared, His glory is revealed to us.

Isaiah 40:3-5 was fulfilled about 700 years later in John the Baptist, who was the voice crying out in the wilderness. He proclaimed that repentance was how to prepare the way of the Lord.

*Father, prepare our hearts to see your glory this Easter Season.*