



One Great Purpose

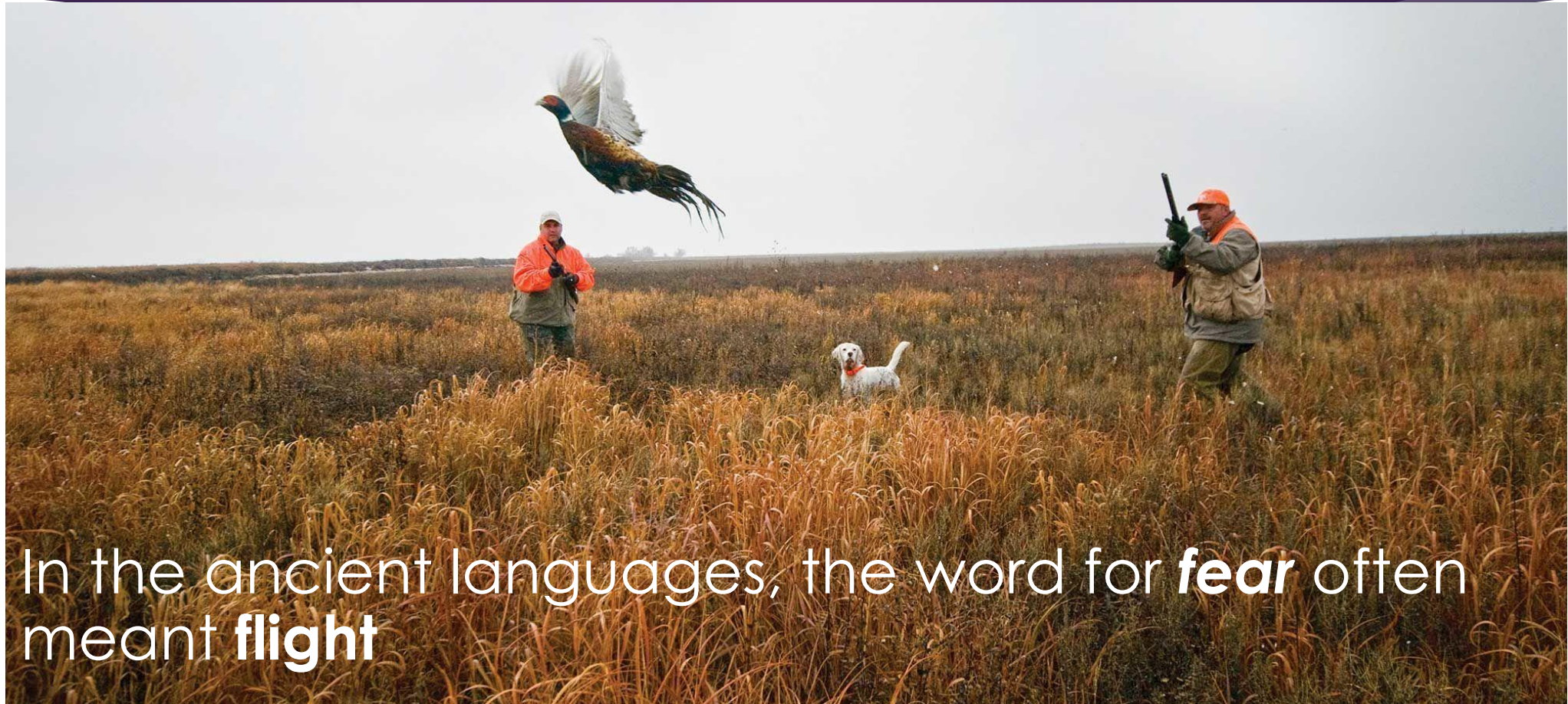
ISAIAH 43:1-7

One Great Purpose

Isaiah 43:1-7

1. Overcome fear with God's presence
2. Move forward in faith
3. Know that God is at work

1. Overcome fear with God's presence (v. 1)



In the ancient languages, the word for **fear** often meant **flight**

1. Overcome fear with God's presence (v. 1)

*But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: “**Fear not**, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine.*

1. Overcome fear with God's presence (v. 1)

We can walk into the unknown because God accompanies us. It's only two words—*fear not*—easier to say than to practice, but easier to practice when we know that God knows us and accompanies us.

2. Move forward in faith (v. 2).

“... when you pass through the waters, and when you pass through the rivers... when you walk through the fire...” (Isaiah 43:2)

2. Move forward in faith (v. 2).

Faith was required. **Faith** is always required
in moving forward

2. Move forward in faith (v. 2).

When we step into the unknown it often feels as though the rug of our life has been pulled out from under us. But remember that if the rug has been pulled out, God is under the rug. He will catch us, support us, encourage us, and soften the blow of the fall. We can count on Him for that. He can be trusted.

3. Know that God is at work (vv. 3-7).

“For I the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, and your Savior”
(Is. 43:3).

“I the Lord” is often translated *“I am,”* connected with the Hebrew verbs: to be, to become, to happen

Therefore, it is tied to the idea of life itself. *“To be”* is *“to live.”* *“To be”* at its very essence is to have life. Thus *“I am”* implies that God is **absolutely self-existent.**

3. Know that God is at work (vv. 3-7).

I have redeemed you;

I have called you by your name;

I will be with you

I . . . give Egypt as a ransom for you,

I love you,

*I will give people in exchange for you and nations instead
of your life.*

3. Know that God is at work (vv. 3-7).

I am with you;

I will bring your descendants from the east, and gather you from the west.

I will say to the north: Give them up! and to the south: Do not hold them back!

I have formed him;

I have made him.

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Esaiiah 43:1

*...thus says the Lord ...“**Fear not**, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine.*