

BOOK OF ISAIAH

Outline

Chapters 49-50

1. **CHAPTER 49** This chapter looks at Israel as God's **SERVANT NATION**, but also has prophetic insight into the **SERVANTHOOD** of the Messiah, **Christ Jesus**.

Verse 6: "...I will also give thee for a **LIGHT** to the **Gentiles**, that thou mayest be **MY SALVATION** unto the **end** of the **earth**."

In the New Testament, when Joseph and Mary brought the baby Jesus to the temple to offer the sacrifice required by the Law, a devout man named Simeon was led by the Spirit to come to the temple that day. God had promised Simeon that he would not die until he first had seen the Lord's Christ. Simeon, by the Holy Spirit, picked up the baby Jesus in his arms, blessed God, and began to speak prophetically. What Simeon said is a fulfillment (scripture interpreting scripture) of Isaiah's prophecy 700 years prior. Listen to the words of Simeon:

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen **THY SALVATION**, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A **LIGHT** to **LIGHTEN** the **GENTILES**, and the glory of thy people Israel." (Luke 2:29-32)

In the Apostle Paul's ministry, he proclaimed this scripture as being fulfilled in Christ. When Paul preached in Antioch of Pisidia, he first spoke in the Jewish synagogue there. When the **Jews** would **not** receive the message of the resurrected Christ and salvation, the **Gentiles** of that area **wanted to hear** more about Jesus. Paul told the Jews that truly the Gospel of the resurrection of Jesus Christ was to be preached **to them first**, but they had judged themselves unworthy of everlasting life. Paul's response was,

"...Lo, we turn to the **GENTILES**. For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a **LIGHT of the GENTILES**, that thou shouldest be for **SALVATION** unto the **ENDS OF THE EARTH**." (Acts 13: 46-47)

This is the **same terminology as in Verse 6 of Isaiah** and is **NO COINCIDENCE**. This is another example of scripture interpreting scripture and fulfillment of scripture.

Verse 8: "Thus saith the Lord, In an **ACCEPTABLE time** have I heard thee, and in a **day of SALVATION** have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a **COVENANT** of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages..."

Notice the word **"ACCEPTABLE."** In **fulfillment** of this scripture, Jesus, in Luke 4:18-19, went to the synagogue in Nazareth and read from the Book of Isaiah. In verse 19 of Luke, Jesus says,

"To preach the **ACCEPTABLE** year of the Lord."

He was saying, "THIS IS THE YEAR OF GOD'S **ACCEPTANCE** of repentant sinners for **SALVATION** is come!" **TODAY** is the day of salvation! In 2 Corinthians 6:2, Paul further amplifies this **acceptance**:

"For He saith, I have heard thee in a time **ACCEPTED**, and in the **day of salvation** have I succoured (pronounced "suk-ered" and means aided, helped) thee: behold, **NOW** is the **ACCEPTED** time; behold, **NOW** is the **day of salvation**."

As believers we are "**ACCEPTED** in the beloved." (Ephesians 1:6)

PRAISE THE LORD GOD!!! His face is TOWARD US! To know that Almighty God **ACCEPTS** us is all the "SELF-ESTEEM" any of us will ever need.

Verse 14: "But Zion said, The Lord hath **FORSAKEN** me, and my Lord hath forgotten me."

Isaiah is stating that Zion, (Jerusalem) when the temple is burned and they are taken captive, will feel that the Lord has forsaken them. Sin and rebellion separates us from God, hence making us feel **FORSAKENED**. The captives from Jerusalem would know that feeling while in Babylonian captivity where, in their forsakenness, they hung their harps upon the willows and could sing no more. Remember, God is using their **physical captivity** to illustrate the **spiritual captivity of sin of ALL PEOPLE**. God is using the physical city of Zion to illustrate the **SPIRITUAL CITY OF ZION**, the company of believers here and now. Abraham sought a CITY whose BUILDER and MAKER was GOD. There is a **SPIRITUAL ZION** and the Psalmist states that:

"When the Lord shall **BUILD UP ZION**, He shall **appear in His Glory**." (Psalm 102:16)

QUESTION: Do you remember when Jesus cried from the agony of the cross, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? What does the scripture state is the interpretation of that utterance? (See Mark: 15:34)

Jesus, in taking "Zion's" sins and ours upon Himself, felt the **FORSAKENNESS** that sin creates. He truly hung there in our stead--feeling the forsakenness and the captivity of sin. It had been **physically demonstrated** with the captivity of Zion (Jerusalem) centuries prior. EVERY WORD JESUS UTTERED HAD DIVINE SIGNIFICANCE.

Verse 16: "Behold, I have **GRAVEN** thee upon the **PALMS** of **MY HANDS**; thy walls are continually before me."

Preceding this verse, God through Isaiah is reassuring His COVENANT people that He **CANNOT FORGET** them!!! Then, through Isaiah, God makes a statement that can only be interpreted as referring to the **COVENANT of the CROSS 700 years later!!!** Every time the **Lord Jesus** looks at the **palms of His Hands**, He is reminded of **His COVENANT with you**, child of God! Just as God remembers His **COVENANT with Noah** as is demonstrated in the Book of Revelation with the **RAINBOW over the Throne of God**, so He carries the scars of the crucifixion as **testimony in Heaven** that **HE CAN NEVER LEAVE THEE OR FORSAKE THEE!** As has been stated, **His scars** are the only "**man-made**" thing in Heaven.

In this verse, God states that "thy walls are continually before me." Not only does this refer to the walls of physical Jerusalem, but to us, it's application is to our "defense" from enemies. Nehemiah's lesson to us is that **"WALLS" are necessary for protection.** We need **SPIRITUAL WALLS** to protect us from every scheme and device of the enemy.

QUESTION: How do we build the kind of **SPIRITUAL WALLS** that we need for our protection?

Verse 25: "...for I will **CONTEND** with **him** that **CONTENDETH** with **THEE**, and I **WILL SAVE THY CHILDREN.**"

What a glorious promise--that God, Himself, will contend with our enemies! Justice may be delayed, but it is **NOT DENIED.** God sees it all and He will bring **RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT** to those who have contended with you!!! Furthermore, not only will God be an enemy to our enemies, but He will go even further and **SAVE OUR CHILDREN.** I would suggest that anyone who has children should **write the names of those children alongside this verse for now and for future posterity.** When you are long gone, perhaps some of your children will not have accepted Christ yet, **BUT JESUS WON'T GIVE UP.** The Lord God will continue to be a **"FATHER TO THE FATHERLESS."**

2. CHAPTER 50

Verse 5: "The Lord God hath **OPENED mine ear**, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back."

Clearly, this scripture is prophetic of Jesus Christ, because verse 6 is a continuation and is, undoubtedly, speaking of Jesus. In John 5:30 Jesus said,

"I can of mine own self do nothing: as I **HEAR**, I judge. and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me."

Verse 6: "I gave my **back to the smiters**, and my **cheeks to them that plucked off the hair:** I hid not my face from shame and **SPITTING.**"

This is prophecy about the crucifixion of Jesus. The New Testament tells us that He was cruelly whipped, slapped brutally upon the face, and was spat upon. In the Kinsman Redeemer Law of the Old Testament, the kinsman who refused to redeem the property and the widow would stand before the elders. The nearest kinsman who refused redeeming the property and marrying the widow would have his shoe removed from his foot by the widow and, finally, was **SPAT** upon by the rejected widow. There is a **counter-fulfillment of this law in Jesus**, in that the religious system and the soldiers were spitting upon Him **demonstrating THEIR REJECTION of Him as the Kinsman Redeemer.** Jesus also fulfilled another Old Testament Law which stated that if a person who was **"unclean"** due to a bodily dysfunction/issue happened to **SPIT** upon a **"clean"** person, the **"clean"** person became **unclean** and had to undergo a ceremonial cleansing. When Jesus was spat upon by the **"unclean"** (the sinners), He was, again, taking our **"uncleanness" (sins)** upon Himself. Furthermore, since God does nothing just simply for the **THEATRICAL** effect, but all His actions are **MANIFOLD WISDOM**, these foreshadowing laws of the Old Testament

regarding SPIT give us insight as to why **Jesus SPAT** upon the ground to **HEAL THE BLIND MAN**:

"Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest IN him...When He had thus spoken, He **SPAT** on the ground, and made **CLAY of the spittle**, and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with **the clay**. (*Think about it, Adam was made from reddish dirt--CLAY! Isaiah said in 64:8, "thou art our father; we are the CLAY)* And Jesus said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, which is by interpretation, Sent. He went his way therefore, and washed, and came SEEING." (John 9:3, 6-7)

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HALLELUJAH!!! The SPIT of Jesus (the "CLEAN," i.e., SINLESS MAN) even made the "UNCLEAN" HEALED and WHOLE!!!

Verse 7: "...therefore have **I set my face like a flint**, and I know that I shall not be ashamed."

Another prophecy about Jesus. Luke 9:51 states,

"And it came to pass, when the time was come that He should be received up, He **STEDFASTLY SET HIS FACE TO GO TO JERUSALEM.**"

Jesus was not just a "Man on a mission." He was the **GOD-MAN** on a mission. He came for one purpose only, and that was to die for our sins, fulfilling all patterns, types and foreshadowings in the Old Testament. God set this plan in motion before the foundation of the world. The fall in the Garden of Eden came as no surprise to Him, for Omniscience already knew the future. **YET**, He made man anyway, knowing He would have to go to the cross for man.

THE LOVE OF GOD COMPELLED JESUS TO GO TO THE CROSS. IT SET HIS FACE AS A FLINT! THERE WAS NO STOPPING JESUS, FOR THE LOVE OF GOD NEVER FAILS!!!