

Isaiah 49
The Servant's Call

Israel's failure (1-4)

LORD called Me from birth (I Peter 1:20 / Titus 1:2 / Ephesians 1:4)

The plan for the Messiah and for us was laid out before creation

Labored for no purpose (I Corinthians 15:58 / John 12:37-41 / Acts 28:24-28)

Nothing that is done for God as we surrender to Him is wasted

Lord's hand will reward Me (Psalm 2:8 / Revelation 22:12)

The Father has given to His Son and the Son will give to us

Israel's Messiah (5-12)

Favored (Mark 9:7-8)

Pleasing to God and of greater importance than Moses or Elijah

Far too small a call (Revelation 5:9-10; 7:9)

To reach every tribe and nation and language, to be united in Christ

Faithful to His chosen (Romans 11:25-29)

Neither His earthly people nor His heavenly people will be neglected in Him

Favor of the LORD offered (II Corinthians 6:1-2 / II Thessalonians 2:10)

There is never a reason to delay, now is the time to give yourself to God

Israel not forgotten (13-21)

In times of discipline and judgment it may seem that God has forgotten His people

Comfort and Compassion (Philippians 2:1-2)

He is always there for those who trust in Him

Can a mother forget? – engraved on His hands (Hebrews 13:5/I Cor 1:8-9/II Cor 1:21-22)

He will never forsake His people. We have His Spirit within us

Coming to you – the return (Ezekiel 37:20-23)

God has and will restore His Nation to Himself

Children born – the need to enlarge the nation (Isaiah 26: 12, 15)

The blessings of God poured out on His children

Israel restored (22-26)

Daughters and sons carried home (Isaiah 14:2)

All nations will seek the favor of Israel – because of their Messiah

Disappointment disappears – for those who hope in God (II Cor 4:11-15 / II Tim 4:16-18)

Times may be hard, but the promise and hope is far greater

Drunk on their own blood – Israel's oppressors (Revelation 16:5-7)

It will not go well for those who continue to oppose God's people

Display of the Savior – all mankind will know (Matthew 24:30)

When He returns, all peoples will either rejoice or tremble

Discussion questions for Isaiah 49

How would you describe a wasted life? (Matthew 6:19-21; 13:22 / Mark 8:36 / Psalm 115:8)

How would you describe a life well lived? (Matthew 25:21 / II Timothy 4:6-8)

To invest my time and energy gathering that which will be destroyed. To seek positions of power and prestige in a system controlled by the enemy of my soul. To bow to an idol that is worthless and will make my life worthless. To stand before my Lord and hear Him proclaim, "Well done good and faithful servant." To know I have been faithful to the One who loves me, has given me life, and has called and empowered me to serve Him.

What is it that angelic beings longed to understand? (Ephesians 3:8-12 / I Peter 1:10-13)

To see how God can transform sinful, rebellious beings into His beloved church through the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. How can mankind be redeemed, let alone become joint heirs with the Creator of the universe.

How does our belonging to the Messiah relate to God's plan? (II Samuel 7:18-21 / Romans 8:31-32; 11:11-15 / I Corinthians 2:9-10) ***God desires to bless His children beyond what they can even imagine. (Ephesians 3:20) The only way for us to experience those blessings is by being in Christ Jesus our Messiah. (II Corinthians 1:20) All of the trials here are used to prepare us for the blessings He has prepared for us in eternity, where we will be forever in relationship with the One who loves us most.***

How does growing in our understanding of God's great love for us impact our lives? (Romans 5:1-5 / Philippians 2:3-4 / Hebrews 10:19-25; 13:5-6) ***The more we grow in our understanding and experience of His love, the more we desire to know Him, to be like Him, to serve Him, and to share the blessings we have received from Him. We are secure in His love and are able to enjoy fellowship with His and with all of His children.***

Why is it so important to stand with Israel? (Genesis 12:3; 22:18; 27:29)

God never breaks a promise. He has promised to bless those who bless Israel and to curse those who curse Israel. He still has a plan, yet to be fulfilled, for His earthly people. We do well to support rather than seek to hinder that plan.

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