

# Isaiah

Comfort from God's Messiah  
Isaiah 49

1



## Introduction

This passage is the second of four “Servant Songs” in the book of Isaiah (42:1-25; 49:1–13; 50:1–11; 52:12–53:12). This one is “The Mission of God’s Servant.”

2



Isaiah 42:1

Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One *in whom* My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.

God's Servant was given a very special, ninefold mission when He came into the world.

- 1. The Savior was Called to do God's Will**
- 2. The Savior was Called to Proclaim the Word of God**
- 3. The Savior was Called to be God's Servant**
- 4. The Savior was Called to Trust God in all Things**

3



Isaiah 49:5

And now the Lord says, Who formed Me from the womb *to be* His Servant, To bring Jacob back to Him, So that Israel is gathered to Him. (For I shall be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, And My God shall be My strength)

- 5. The Savior was Called to Redeem and Return Israel to God**

The Savior was sent "to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Mt. 15:24). He was sent to lead them to God so they could be delivered from the bondages of sin and death, live righteous lives, and be assured of living eternally with God (Jn. 3:16–17).

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### **5. The Savior was Called to Redeem and Return Israel to God**

Even though Israel rejected Jesus, He was successful. Remember that the very first followers of Christ were Jewish believers and that the first church was also made up of Jewish believers. In the future a multitude Jews will know that Jesus Christ is the Savior and the nation will turn their hearts to Him.

5



Isaiah 49:6

Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.' of the Lord, And My God shall be My strength.

### **6. The Savior was Called to be a Light to the Gentiles**

The Father states that reaching Israel alone is too small a task for Christ, for He is God's Servant. God's Servant deserves a far greater task. Therefore, God enlarged His mission on earth to reaching the Gentiles also.

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## 6. The Savior was Called to be a Light to the Gentiles

The Savior was called to be a *light* to the Gentiles. Jesus was to be the Savior of the entire world. Note that two points are being stressed:

- ⇒ Everyone must approach God through the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man comes to the Father but by Me" (Jn. 14:6).
- ⇒ Jesus was given the task of taking God's salvation to the ends of the earth.

7



Isaiah 49:7

Thus says the Lord, The Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, To Him whom man despises, To Him whom the nation abhors, To the Servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise, Princes also shall worship, Because of the Lord who is faithful, The Holy One of Israel; And He has chosen You."

## 7. The Savior was Called to Suffer and be Despised

The Savior would become the *suffering Servant* of God. He would be subjected to humiliation at the hands of people, be ridiculed and mocked, assaulted and abused, despised and rejected, scourged and crucified. God Through the suffering of the Savior, the Lord provides redemption for all who trust, obey, and follow the Lord Jesus Christ.

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### 8. The Savior was Called to be Honored

While on earth, the Savior was abused and crucified. However, after His sufferings, He was raised from the dead and exalted. When the Savior returns to set up God's kingdom on earth, all the citizens of the world will honor Him. All kings, princes, and rulers will rise up from their thrones and willingly surrender the authority of all the nations of the earth, and they will honor Christ as Lord of the universe.

9



Isaiah 49:8

Thus says the Lord: "In an acceptable time I have heard You, And in the day of salvation I have helped You; I will preserve You and give You As a covenant to the people, To restore the earth, To cause them to inherit the desolate heritages.

### 9. The Savior was Called to be God's Covenant

Note that it is the person of **Christ Himself that is the covenant**. Through Him, God pledges to fulfill all His promises. The Savior is to be the *Mediator* through whom God brings to the world the promise of salvation and all the other promises He has made down through the ages.

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### 9. The Savior was Called to be God's Covenant

God promised to answer the prayers of his suffering Servant and to help Him in the day of salvation. Throughout His life on earth, the Savior suffered agonizing pain due to the continual hostility of people, in particular the religionists. God protected the Savior in order to guarantee that He would become the *covenant* for the people.

11



Isaiah 49:8

Thus says the Lord: "In an acceptable time I have heard You, And in the day of salvation I have helped You; I will preserve You and give You As a covenant to the people, To restore the earth, To cause them to inherit the desolate heritages.

Five promises in particular are mentioned:

#### **Promise 1: Restore the Land and Inheritance Promised**

This is a reference to the inheritance God gave each tribe When Christ returns to earth to set up God's kingdom, the true believers among the Israelites will receive their promised inheritances. But Gentile believers will also receive their rewards.

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Isaiah 49:9

That You may say to the prisoners, 'Go forth,' To those who *are* in darkness, 'Show yourselves.' "They shall feed along the roads, And their pastures *shall be* on all desolate heights.

### **Promise 2: Set the People Free from Captivity and Darkness**

Israel's deliverance from the captivity in Babylon is a clear picture of the Savior delivering His people from the bondages of sin, death, and the coming judgment. The Savior *redeems* and *sets free* all those who put their trust in Him.

He opens the eyes of the believer so they can have the light of His Truth.

13



Isaiah 49:9b-10

"They shall feed along the roads, And their pastures *shall be* on all desolate heights. <sup>10</sup> They shall neither hunger nor thirst, Neither heat nor sun shall strike them; For He who has mercy on them will lead them, Even by the springs of water He will guide them.

### **Promise 3: To Guide, Provide, and Protect His People**

No matter where people go, the Lord promises to meet their needs along the way. Even the barren hills will provide food for true believers. In compassion, the Lord promises to guide and lead His people, meeting whatever needs they have. Whether Jews or Gentiles, if people truly trust the Lord, their needs will be met. This is an encouragement as we are to go into all the world sharing the Gospel!

14



Isaiah 49:11-12

I will make each of My mountains a road, And My highways shall be elevated. <sup>12</sup> Surely these shall come from afar; Look! Those from the north and the west, And these from the land of Sinim.”

### **Promise 4: God will bring His Children Home**

This is a picture God making a way for people to come to Him. This will be seen when Jesus returns and sets up His Kingdom. All Israel will return to the Promised Land regardless of where they are. Nothing can stop them from returning.

It is also a picture of those coming to know Christ as Savior. He will remove the obstacles so they can come to Him.

15



Isaiah 49:13

Sing, O heavens! Be joyful, O earth! And break out in singing, O mountains! For the Lord has comforted His people, And will have mercy on His afflicted.

### **Promise 5: God will Comfort His People**

God will comfort His people. This is cause for great rejoicing. The world is not a kind place. We face temptation, trials, and the effects of sin we can find comfort in Christ. Regardless of stain of sin on one's life they can find mercy and forgiveness in the Savior.

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## So What ...

Do not trust in the things of this world.  
They are poor counterfeits for what God  
wants to give you in Christ.

Jesus has accomplished His Mission and  
brought Salvation to the world. Now it is  
our job to proclaim that message.