

Isa 49:14 - 51:3

January 16, 2022

Promise to Zion **Isa 49:14-21**

14 But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me, And the Lord has forgotten me." 15 "Can a woman forget her nursing child And have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but I will not forget you. 16 "Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me. 17 "Your builders hurry; Your destroyers and devastators Will depart from you. 18 "Lift up your eyes and look around; All of them gather together, they come to you. As I live," declares the LORD, "You will surely put on all of them as jewels and bind them on as a bride. 19 "For your waste and desolate places and your destroyed land— Surely now you will be too cramped for the inhabitants, And those who swallowed you will be far away. 20 "The children of whom you were bereaved will yet say in your ears, 'The place is too cramped for me; Make room for me that I may live here.' 21 "Then you will say in your heart, 'Who has begotten these for me, Since I have been bereaved of my children And am barren, an exile and a wanderer? And who has reared these? Behold, I was left alone; From where did these come?'"

"Zion said, 'The LORD has forsaken me, And the Lord has forgotten me.'" (v. 14)
He will not forget us (v. 15)

Heb 13:5 ... He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you."
(Jos 1:5; 1Ki 6:13; 1Chr 28:20; Ps 37:28; 94:14)

We are inscribed (*tattooed*) on the palms of His hands (v. 16)

The meaning here is that God has the thought of Zion as constantly present with him as if her image were indelibly marked on the palms of his hands.

Our walls are continually before Him (v. 16)

Isa 60:18 "Violence will not be heard again in your land, Nor devastation or destruction within your borders; But you will call your walls salvation, and your gates praise.

Isa 26:1 In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: "We have a strong city; He sets up walls and ramparts for security.

He gives us victory over our enemies

"Your destroyers and devastators Will depart from you" (v. 17)

2Cor 2:14 But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, ...
(Rom 8:37; 1Cor 15:57; Col 2:15)

Verses 19-21 shows the restoration God does in our lives when we come to Him.

We come to Him with waste, desolate, and destroyed places.

We come to Him having feelings that we are barren, an exile or wanderer (speaks of having low self-image).

We find that He multiplies and blesses us. How - we do not even know!

Prophetic prophecy of the suffering Servant **Isa 50:4-7**

4 The Lord GOD has given Me the tongue of disciples, That I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple. 5 The Lord GOD has opened My ear; And I was not disobedient Nor did I turn back. 6 I gave My back to those who strike Me, And My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; I did not cover My face from humiliation and spitting. 7 For the Lord GOD helps Me, Therefore, I am not disgraced; Therefore, I have set My face like flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.

"the tongue of disciples; ... He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple"

The Servant claims He is a disciple of God Himself and credits God for His knowledgeable speech. A disciple's role was to learn from his master and accurately transmit the traditions learned from him. The Servant learns from God and is capable of passing on God's word to those who listen.

Jn 8:28-29 So Jesus said, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me. 29 "And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him."

(Jn 5:19, 30; 6:38; 12:49-50)

I gave My back to those who strike Me, [v. 6] (Mt 27:26; Jn 19:1)

And My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; [v. 6] (Mk 14:65; Lk 22:63-64; Jn 18:22)

I did not cover My face from humiliation and spitting. [v. 6] (Mt 26:67; 27:30; Mk 14:65; Lk 18:32)
Spitting in the East marked contempt, abhorrence and humiliation.

Promise of God to vindicate and not condemn **Isa 50:8-9**

8 He who vindicates Me is near; Who will contend with Me? Let us stand up to each other; Who has a case against Me? Let him draw near to Me. 9 Behold, the Lord GOD helps Me; Who is he who condemns Me? ...

Rom 8:31-35 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? 33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; 34 who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? ...

Promise to Abraham's descendants **Isa 51:1-3**

1 "Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, Who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were hewn And to the quarry from which you were dug. 2 "Look to Abraham your father And to Sarah who gave birth to you in pain; When he was but one I called him, Then I blessed him and multiplied him." 3 Indeed, the LORD will comfort Zion; He will comfort all her waste places. And her wilderness He will make like Eden, And her desert like the garden of the LORD; Joy and gladness will be found in her, Thanksgiving and sound of a melody.

"you who pursue righteousness" (v. 1)

Rom 10:3 (Israel) not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

Rom 9:30-32 What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness, even the righteousness which is by faith; 31 but Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at that law. 32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as though it were by works. ...

How you pursue righteousness (God)

Seek the Lord (v. 1)

Listen to Him (v. 1, 7); Give ear (v. 4)

Look (v. 1, 2, 6); Lift up your eyes (v. 6)

Those who are righteous have Abraham as their father.

Rom 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? "ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

Rom 4:11-12 and he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, so that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be credited to them, 12 and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised. (Rom 4:16; Gal 6:3-9; 4:22-31)

Promise to Zion

Comfort - Literally, the word used is has comforted, i.e. has so determined the matter in his counsels that it may be considered as already accomplished.

Isa 40:1-2 "Comfort, O comfort My people," says your God. 2 "Speak kindly to Jerusalem; And call out to her, that her warfare has ended, That her iniquity has been removed, That she has received of the LORD'S hand Double for all her sins."

He comforts - her waste places, her wilderness and desert.

He turns them into a garden of the Lord - like Eden.

He turns her sorrow into joy and gladness with worship of praise and thanksgiving.

References Used:

Isaiah, Vol. 1; by HDM Spence
Faith life Study Bible