

{23} Isaiah

King James Version

King James Paraphrase

Chapter 49

(1) Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name.
 (2) And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me;
 (3) And said unto me, Thou *art* my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.
 (4) Then I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: *yet* surely my judgment *is* with the LORD, and my work with my God.
 (5) And now, saith the LORD that formed me from the womb *to be* his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and my God shall be my strength.
 (6) And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

Chapter 49

(1) Listen to me, O islands; and listen, you people, from afar; The LORD {Jehovah} has called me from the womb; from the body of my mother He has made mention of my name.
 (2) And He has made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of His hand He has hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in His quiver He has hid me;
 (3) And said to me, *You are My servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.*
 (4) Then I said, I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing, and in vain: *yet* surely my judgment *is* with the LORD {Jehovah}, and my work with My God.
 (5) And now, the LORD {Jehovah} Who formed me from the womb *to be* His servant, to bring Jacob again to Him says, *Though Israel not be gathered, yet I will be glorious in the eyes of the LORD {Jehovah}, and my God will be my strength.*
 (6) And He said, *It is a light thing that you should be My servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give you for a light to the Gentiles {non-Jews; nations}, that you may be My salvation to the ends of the earth.*

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(7) Thus saith the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, *and* his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the LORD that is faithful, *and* the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee.

(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;

(9) That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that *are* in darkness, Shew yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures *shall be* in all high places.

(10) They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

(11) And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted.

(12) Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim.

(7) This is what the LORD {Jehovah} says, the Redeemer of Israel, *and* His Holy One, to Him Whom man despises, to Him Whom the nation despise, to a servant of rulers, Kings will see and arise, princes also will worship, because of the LORD {Jehovah} Who is faithful, *and* the Holy One of Israel, and He will choose You.

(8) This is what the LORD {Jehovah} says, In an acceptable time I have heard You, and in a day of salvation I have helped You: and I will preserve You, and give You for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;

(9) That You may say to the prisoners, Go forth; to those who *are* in darkness, Show yourselves. They will feed in the ways, and their pastures *will be* in all high places.

(10) They will not hunger nor thirst; neither will the heat nor sun strike them: because He Who has mercy on them will lead them, even by the springs of water He will guide them.

(11) And I will make all My mountains a road, and My highways will be exalted.

(12) Indeed, these will come from afar: and from the north and from the west; and from the land of Sinim.

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(13) Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the LORD hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted.

(14) But Zion said, The LORD hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me.

(15) Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

(16) Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of *my* hands; thy walls *are* continually before me.

(17) Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee.

(18) Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together, *and* come to thee. As I live, saith the LORD, thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all, as with an ornament, and bind them *on thee*, as a bride *doeth*.

(19) For thy waste and thy desolate places, and the land of thy destruction, shall even now be too narrow by reason of the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away.

(13) Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: because the LORD {Jehovah} has comforted His people, and will have mercy upon His afflicted.

(14) But Zion said, The LORD {Jehovah} has forsaken me, and my Lord has forgotten me.

(15) Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yes, they may forget, yet I will not forget you.

(16) See, I have engraved you upon the palms of *My* hands; your walls *are* continually before Me.

(17) Your children will come quickly; your destroyers and those who made you waste will go forth from you.

(18) Lift up your eyes all around, and look: all these gather themselves together, *and* come to you. As I live, says the LORD {Jehovah}, you will surely clothe yourselves with them all, as with an ornament, and bind them *on yourself*, as a bride *does*.

(19) Because your waste and your desolate places, and the land of your destruction, will even now be too narrow because of those who live there, and those who swallowed you up will be far away.

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(20) The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other, shall say again in thine ears, The place *is* too strait for me: give place to me that I may dwell.

(21) Then shalt thou say in thine heart, Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? and who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where *had* they *been*?

(22) Thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in *their* arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon *their* shoulders.

(23) And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with *their* face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I *am* the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

(24) Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered?

(20) The children which you will have, after you have lost the other, will say again in your ears, The place *is* too confining for me: give to me room that I may live.

(21) Then you will say in your heart, Who has fathered these to me, since I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing back and forth? and who has brought up these? Indeed, I was left alone; these, where *have* they *been*?

(22) This is what the Lord GOD {Jehovah} says, Indeed, I will lift up My hand to the Gentiles {nations; non-Jews}, and set up My standard {banner; flag} to the people: and they will bring your sons in *their* arms, and your daughters will be carried upon *their* shoulders.

(23) And kings will be your nursing fathers, and their queens your nursing mothers: they will bow down to you with *their* face towards the earth, and lick up the dust of your feet; and you will know that I *am* the LORD {Jehovah}: because they will not be ashamed who wait for Me.

(24) Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered?