

The Judgment and Blessing of God – A Study in the Book of Isaiah

19 - THE REJECTED SERVANT AND THE EXALTED REMNANT (ISAIAH 49:1-52:12)

I. The Servant's Mission (Isaiah 49:1-13)

A. Ministry to the Gentiles (Isaiah 49:1-7)

- The Servant is the speaker in verses 1-5.
- He calls the nations to listen to him because of his special calling from the Lord.
- The Messiah is called Israel because He fulfills what Israel should have done.
- In his person and work, he epitomizes the nation.
- The Lord will reward the Servant whom he has called to bring Israel back to the Lord.
- Though the Servant will be rejected, the Lord tells his servant that he will be acknowledged by all.

B. Israel's Restoration (Isaiah 49:8-13)

- The acceptable or favorable time refers to the Millennium.
- The Lord will enable the Servant to fulfill the covenant promises to Israel.
- Israel will be restored to the land which will be fertile and watered.

II. Assurance of the Return (Isaiah 49:14-26)

- These verses record a dialogue between Israel and God.
- Israel claims the Lord has forsaken her.
- The Lord states that he has not forgotten her life as a mother would not forget her child.
- Judah's enemies will depart and the remnant will return.
- When Israel returns, the Gentile will be friendly to Israel and come to worship the Lord.
- Israel's enemies will be destroyed and the world will acknowledge the Lord as Israel's savior.

III. Exhortation to Walk by Faith (Isaiah 50:1-11)

A. The Divorce of Israel (Isaiah 50:1-3)

- The Lord states that he temporarily divorced Israel because she rejected him.
- Israel's captivity was like a wife leaving her husband because of her sins.

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B. The Servant's Growth (Isaiah 50:4-9)

- The Lord taught the Servant to comfort the weary.
- The Servant did not rebel against the Lord's instruction.
- The Servant gave his body to those who persecuted him.
- The Servant states that the Lord will help and vindicate him.
- Those who accuse the Servant will face judgment.

C. The Exhortation (Isaiah 50:10-11)

- Those that fear the Lord and his Servant must trust in the name of the Lord.
- Those who walk according to their own light will suffer torment.

IV. The Remnant to be Exalted (Isaiah 51:1-52:12)

A. The Comfort of the Remnant (Isaiah 51:1-16)

- The Lord speaks to those who pursue righteousness and seek him.
- The remnant is to remember where they came from.
- The Lord will comfort and restore Israel.
- The Lord's law will be known as his justice is established throughout the world.
- The remnant prayed for the Lord to bring about another exodus.
- Rehab refers to the name of a sea monster that represents Egypt.
- The Lord comforts the remnant by stating that their enemies are only men.
- The Lord is their God who will help them and restore them.

B. The Comfort of Jerusalem (Isaiah 51:17-52:10)

- The Lord calls Jerusalem to be awakened because her calamity is ending.
- In her calamity, Jerusalem has suffered much.
- The Lord will now afflict those who have afflicted her.
- Jerusalem was to awaken because she will be rebuilt or adorned.

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- She will never be invaded and defiled again.
- She will be redeemed from her slavery.
- The prophet exalted in the good news of the Lord's salvation.

C. The Exhortation to Return (Isaiah 52:11-12)

- The Lord calls Israel to return and to be cleaned from impurity.
- Israel will not have to leave in haste for the Lord will be with her.