

Sing for Joy!

(Isaiah 49, Preaching: Pastor Stephen Magee, May 16, 2021)

1-13 My Servant Israel – A Light for the Nations

[1] Listen to me, O coastlands,...you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb...
[2] He made my mouth like a sharp sword; ...
[3] And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
[4] But I said, "I have labored in vain; ... yet surely my right is with the LORD, ...
[5] And now the LORD says, he who formed me ... to bring Jacob back to him; ...
[6] he says: "... I will make you as a light for the nations, ... "
[7] to one deeply despised,... "Kings shall see ... because of the LORD, who has chosen you."
[8] Thus says the LORD: ... "I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, ...
[9] saying to the prisoners, 'Come out,' to those who are in darkness, 'Appear.' ...
[10] ... he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them.
[11] And I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways shall be raised up.
[12] Behold, these shall come from afar, ...
[13] Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

14-26 An Unexpectedly Large Resurrection Salvation

[14] But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me."
[15] Can a woman forget her nursing child, ...Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.
[16] Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; ...
[17] Your builders make haste; your destroyers and those who laid you waste go out from you.
[18] Lift up your eyes ... they all gather, ... you shall bind them on as a bride does.
[19] ... surely now you will be too narrow for your inhabitants,
[20] The children of your bereavement will yet say: ... make room for me to dwell in.
[21] Then you will say in your heart: ... Behold, I was left alone; from where have these come?
[22] Thus says the Lord GOD: ... the nations, ... shall bring your sons ... and your daughters
[23] Kings shall be your foster fathers, and their queens your nursing mothers. ...
Then you will know that I am the LORD; those who wait for me shall not be put to shame.
[24] Can the prey be taken from the mighty, or the captives of a tyrant be rescued?
[25] ... I will contend with those who contend with you, and I will save your children.
[26] ... I am the LORD your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

Key Verse: Isaiah 49:13 Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

THE POINT: The comforts of the Lord are weighty. His compassions will never fail you.

Applying these verses:

- 1 Jesus is the only begotten "Israel" of God, and we are the Israel of God in Jesus.
- 2 Our Redeemer has become a light to all the people groups of the earth.
- 3 The extent of the Lord's salvation will be a delightful surprise to his people.

Old Testament Reading—Ecclesiastes 7:14-29 – Be not overly righteous ...

Gospel Reading—Matthew 10:1-4 – He called to him his twelve disciples.

New Testament Reading—Philippians 3 – Rejoice in the Lord

Isaiah 49:13 Sing for joy, O heavens!

1 The LORD who called me from the womb,
He made my mouth just like a sword.
A Word now spoken to the world.
The cross, the grave, our God!

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

2 The LORD who called His Jacob home,
He said, "A light for all the earth
You are for ev'ry tribe and tongue!"
The cross, the grave, our God!

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

3 O LORD, when I was all alone,
I said, "For me there is no hope."
From where have all these children come?
The cross, the grave, our God!

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.