

3rd Servant Song

Conclusion to Section

9 Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
 who will declare me guilty?
 Behold, all of them will wear out like a
 garment;
 the moth will eat them up.

10 Who among you fears the LORD
 and obeys the voice of his servant?
 Let him who walks in darkness
 and has no light
 trust in the name of the LORD
 and rely on his God.

11 Behold, all you who kindle a fire,
 who equip yourselves with burning torches!
 Walk by the light of your fire,
 and by the torches that you have kindled!
 This you have from my hand:
 you shall lie down in torment.

The LORD's Comfort for Zion

51 "Listen to me, you who (pursue righteousness,
 you 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 bore you;
 for he was but one when I called him,
 that I might bless him and multiply him.
 3 For the LORD comforts Zion;
 he comforts all her waste places

① The Servant is not alone. His strength comes from God. THE Question of Guilt is a rhetorical Question. THE answer is No One can find Him Guilty. These times Pilate said he found no Guilt in Jesus (see Jn 18:39; 19:4; 19:6) In the end the mob demands His crucifixion. They all wear out, or die, but Jesus is in the end victorious over death.

⑩-11 Here this section is concluded. It opened with the faithless people in verses 1-3 and with this was shown the contrast of the faithful servant in verses 4-9.

⑩ The open question is a call to the faithful to come to Him. He will provide light for them. Jn 8:12 Jesus declares he is the light of the world. By trusting or turning to Jesus they come into His eternal light. (see 159.2)

⑪ Contrast to this are those who THINK THEY HAVE THE LIGHT BUT w/out THE servant are in darkness or blind. He they follow their own light and not God's. False RELIGIONS & PHILOSOPHIES are all manmade lights on a path to destruction. These paths away from God will led to eternal torment

Jn 8 p. 133 divides the opening section into three parts all w/a call to Listen or heed and a key sentence explaining the reason for the call.

① The opening call is to the righteous to "look to the rock." This is a call to remember their roots, where they have come from. They did not get here on their own. Their foundation helps form who they are.

② Again a backward look is called for. Here is the foundation of the promise. God did not call a nation but a man and his wife. All that has happened to create the mighty nation come from Him and His plans. The righteous are to remember this is God's hand that has done this. It is God's hand that sustains them.

③ God is always watching over His people and their land. He has turned a wilderness into a garden for His people. God causes gladness and joy by all He does for His people.

and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

4 "Give attention to me, (my people,)
and give ear to me, (my nation;)
for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.

5 My righteousness draws near,
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.

6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

7 "Listen to me, you (who know righteousness,)
the people in (whose heart is my law;)
fear not the reproach of man,
nor be dismayed at their revilings.

8 For the moth will eat them up like a garment,
and the worm will eat them like wool,
but my righteousness will be forever,
and my salvation to all generations."

④ This 2nd Section is addressed the chosen people and the nation. Here is a message they need to know. In section it was about their roots. Here it is about the future. God is going to make an offer of light to the whole world. This is about justice that will define everyone, everywhere.

⑤ THE TIME HAS BEEN SET AND IS COMING when righteousness will provide salvation to any who will respond. This will be a judgment that will be delivered to everyone (coastlands). Mt 25.46 Jesus shows this judgment is a separating of Righteous & unrighteous. This is about hope and deliverance. Salvation going out is the invitation to accept or reject His son's offer of eternal life.

⑥ Here is a picture of the end of time. After His call to righteousness in vs. 7, and the provision of salvation in vs. 5, here is the final end of all the physical universe. Yet, life will continue for those who have accepted His salvation. (Note this is not saying the wicked are destroyed. Their punishment is just not dealt with here)

⑦ THIS 3rd Section shows how to live and respond till this final Judgment of Section 2 comes. Since they know how to live righteous live and "whose heart is my law" they are not to fear. God is taking care of them. It does not say they are following the law but the heart of the law. Even as we learn we are under grace and not the law (Rom. 6.14) we are safe and saved from sin and from the reproach (attacks) of man. We are not to be overcome by their sinful life style. As shown in section 2 this will all be dealt with by God in Judgment.

⑧ Evil people will be removed by God. They will not last. If they choose to reject God & righteousness they live w/out hope. In contrast to them the righteous will live forever w/ God. Any one of any nation may receive this salvation as long as time continues.

This is God's gift to all of Human history right up to the Final Trumpet **BLAST!**

9 Awake, awake, put on strength,
 O arm of the LORD;
awake, as in days of old,
 the generations of long ago. → "Shem" or sea monster
 Was it not you who cut Rahab in pieces, see Isa. 30.7
 who pierced the dragon?
 10 Was it not you who dried up the sea,
 the waters of the great deep,
 who made the depths of the sea a way
 for the redeemed to pass over?
 35.10 also ← 11 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
 everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
 12 "I, I am he who comforts you;
 who are you that you are afraid of man who
 dies,
 of the son of man who is made like grass,
 13 and have forgotten the LORD, your Maker,
 who stretched out the heavens
 and laid the foundations of the earth,
 and you fear continually all the day
 because of the wrath of the oppressor,
 when he sets himself to destroy?
 And where is the wrath of the oppressor?
 14 He who is bowed down shall speedily be released;
 he shall not die and go down to the pit,
 neither shall his bread be lacking.

9) There is a call for God to again use His strength as He has done in the past to deliver His people. God is not asleep but w/out having seen His works this is a call to revive His presence into their lives and to help deliver them.

Rahab is defined in Is. 30.7 as representing Egypt. Rahab means pride or arrogance. Here the defeat of Egypt is seen like killing a monster or a dragon. Scripture of lens refers to evil using creatures both real & mythical.

10) They call on God to remember when He delivered them from Egypt. They recall this as a great and mighty miracle.

11) Here Isa. 35.10 is repeated almost word for word. See notes at 35.10. This is about victory, joy, and being set free from a sinful world.

12) God refers to Himself with an emphatic double "I." There is no one else who can comfort them like He can. He wants to know why they are afraid of men and their children when He is watching over them.

13) God continues why have they forgotten Him. He is the creator it seems impossible to conceive they are living in fear. They have taken their eyes off of God and have focused in fear on their enemies. God wonders why. He is more powerful why are they afraid of what the oppressor might think of doing to them?

14) The image changes points of view and God shows what He plans to do for them. God promises He will release them from captivity. He promises a restoration of life and a life filled with abundance.

- 15 I am the LORD your God,
who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—
the LORD of hosts is his name.
- 16 And I have put my words in your mouth
and covered you in the shadow of my hand,
establishing the heavens
and laying the foundations of the earth,
and saying to Zion, "You are my people."
- 17 Wake yourself, wake yourself,
stand up, O Jerusalem,
you who have drunk from the hand of the
LORD
the cup of his wrath,
who have drunk to the dregs
the bowl, the cup of staggering.
- 18 There is none to guide her
among all the sons she has borne;
there is none to take her by the hand
among all the sons she has brought up.
- 19 These two things have happened to you—
who will console you?—
devastation and destruction, famine and
sword;
who will comfort you?
Your sons have fainted;
they lie at the head of every street
like an antelope in a net;
they are full of the wrath of the LORD,
the rebuke of your God.

(15) after showing that he plans to deliver them God restates how powerful He is. He controls the seas and He controls their destiny.

He is not just anyone, He is the mighty Lord of hosts.

(16) God wants to ensure them that what He tells the prophets to share with them will come to pass. He protects the prophet and the people with His very presence. He has set everything in its place. The heavens and the earth's foundation. He has also chosen them as His people and they need to remain confident in Him.

(17) This is the 2nd call to wake up. They are spiritually asleep and need to be revived. God's wrath always is a result of sin and disobedience. They have received the full measure of God's anger and yet somehow they are still darkened by sin. Asleep to God and overcome by the results of their sins. It is hard to grasp that they can fear an enemy w/limited powers and not pay attention when the full might of God is released against their sins.

(18) Her. either refers to the nation of Israel or the city of Jerusalem as symbolic of the Jewish people. Everyone has lost their way and no one of its citizens shows any hope of showing the way to restoration. This is a sad pronouncement upon the spiritual lacking of the people. This is similar to Sodom when God said He would spare it for 10 righteous people. Here God says there are ZERO righteous people.

(19) The two things are repeated using different descriptive words. First there is devastation and famine. The Second is destruction and sword. This is the cup of wrath from vs. 17. The suffering is so complete a rhetorical question ends the verse. "who will comfort you? the answer is there is no one left to comfort you."

(20) Here the young who would normally make up the army and fight to defend are weak. This may be from fear or exhaustion, or from consumption of alcohol. They are laying around unable to stand. They are held captive by their own making. Here again the wrath of God is because of their sins and disobedience. God's rebuke has removed His protection. Much like a country held captive by sex drugs, and seeking personal pleasure they are now captives of their sin w/the absence of God.

- 21 Therefore hear this, you who are afflicted,
who are drunk, but not with wine:
- 22 Thus says your Lord, the LORD,
your God who pleads the cause of his people:
"Behold, I have taken from your hand the cup of
staggering;
the bowl of my wrath you shall drink no more;
- 23 and I will put it into the hand of your tormentors,
who have said to you,
'Bow down, that we may pass over';
and you have made your back like the ground
and like the street for them to pass over."

The LORD's Coming Salvation

- 52** Awake, awake,
put on your strength, O Zion;
put on your beautiful garments,
O Jerusalem, the holy city;
for there shall no more come into you
the uncircumcised and the unclean.
- 2 Shake yourself from the dust and arise;
be seated, O Jerusalem;
loose the bonds from your neck,
O captive daughter of Zion.

³For thus says the LORD: "You were sold for nothing, and you shall be redeemed without money."⁴For thus says the Lord GOD: "My people went down at the first into Egypt to sojourn there, and the Assyrian oppressed them for nothing."⁵Now therefore what have I here," declares the LORD, "seeing that my

21 Here they are pictured as being drunk, but not on alcohol. Here they are consumed and controlled by sinful lust. The need of more and more till it is all that matters.

22 God wants them to know that He plans to change all this. He may have unleashed His wrath but He has not forgotten them. He is going to deal with restoring them.

23 God plans to turn the table and punish THEIR ENEMIES who have tormented them. These are the one who made them slaves to bow down to them. They had been totally conquered by these who God will deal with. The image of the enemy walking on the backs of the defeated will be reversed by God.

1 Here is a 3rd call from the Lord to awake from their sinful slumber. This is a call to remove their sinful, dark ways and put on the holiness of God. Jerusalem is described as "the holy city." This is how God wants to see Jerusalem, filled with faithful followers. God is promising to again protect the city when they turn to Him.

2 THE TIME FOR MOURNING IS PAST. THEY ARE TO RISE UP IN RIGHTEOUSNESS and return to their proper place before God. They are no longer captives but free. The restrictions of the enemy are removed. Return to God and He will Restore You, is God's message to them. This message of restoration and hope precedes God's punishment. This shows his purpose in them is always positive even when chastising them w/ enemy armies.

3 Babel took Israel and gave God nothing. When He takes them back He will give Babel nothing. The "redemption" will be to free the people from their sins. Here is a shadow of what CHRIST will do on the cross where the payment is to God so they can return and be seated w/ Him.

4 This has happened before w/ Egypt & Assyria & God set them free then too. Here is what Young calls "the history of Affliction (p327)"

5 God turns from History to the present with "NOW THEREFORE." He is looking and sees it is happening again. His people are taken from Him.