

Isaiah 49:1-7

The Servant's Mission

Servant Songs

No.	Reference	Song (Poem/Oracle)
1	Isaiah 42:1-6	Introduction to the Servant
2	Isaiah 49:1-7	Servant's Mission
3	Isaiah 50:4-7	Servant's Obedience
4a	Isaiah 52:3 – 53:6	Suffering and Glory – Man of Sorrows
4b	Isaiah 53:7-9	Suffering and Glory – Lamb of God
4c	Isaiah 53:10-12	Suffering and Glory – Righteous Saviour

The Servant's Mission

...to redeem the Nation of Israel
and
save the other nations of the world

Isaiah 49:1-4 (NIV)

Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my birth he has made mention of my name. He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendour." But I said, "I have laboured to no purpose; I have spent my strength in vain and for nothing. Yet what is due to me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God."

Isaiah 47:5-6 (NIV)

And now the LORD says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honoured in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength—he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

Isaiah 47:7 (NIV)

This is what the LORD says—the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: "Kings will see you and rise up, princes will see and bow down, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Poetry - Apposition

Verse	Thought 1	Thought 2
1	Listen to me	Hear this
2	in the shadow of his hand he hid me	Concealed me in his quiver
4	Laboured for no purpose	Spent my strength in vain and for nothing



FERTILE CRESCENT

HURRIANS

ARMENIA

CYPRUS

MESOPOTAMIA

ASSYRIA

Mediterranean Sea
(Great Sea)

Caspian Sea

Ugarit
Hamath

Nineveh
Nimrud

Sidon
Tyre

Damascus

Mari

Ecbatana

CANAAN

BABYLONIA

MED

Jerusalem
Amman
Jericho
Bethlehem
Gaza

Babylon
Tower of Babel?

SINAI
PENINSULA

Ezion-geber

Nippur
SUMER
Ur
Garden of Eden?

Susa
ELAM

Persepolis
PERSIA

Isaiah 45:1a, 4-6 (NIV)

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus...
For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my
chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though
you do not know me.

I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me
there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know
me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me; I
am the LORD, and there is no other.

God's Word ---- Power

“let there be light...” Genesis 1:3

“Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear...” Genesis 1:9

“...the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12

God's word saves people

God's Timing

In the shadow of his had he hid me...

... concealed me in his quiver.

Polishing, sharpening = prep time

Public ministry...

Second coming...

God's timing points us back to Himself

God's Servant, Israel

Possibilities include:

- the Nation as a whole
- true believers
- future individual
- **Jesus**

Failure?

- Covenants, law
- Nation of Israel had rejected God
- Jesus – healed, opened eyes, fed thousands...
- Jesus still rejected by many

Mt 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing."

Jesus Continues and Trusts

"Yet what is due to me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God." Is 49:4b

Is 50:7-8 Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near.

Is 53:11-12 ... After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied ... I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors ...

God's Chosen One

This is what the LORD says—the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: "Kings will see you and rise up, princes will see and bow down, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."
Is 49:7 (NIV)

**Chosen by God... Despised, abhorred by the nation...
But Wait!**

"...at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."
Phil 2:10-11 (NIV)

Recap

Servant's mission...

to redeem the Nation of Israel and
save the other nations of the world

HOW?

- by showing God's love, grace, sovereignty
- accomplished by His coming to earth, living, dying, and rising again

Application

Study God's word

Know Jesus personally

Walk the talk – Jesus is Lord

His priorities become our priorities

Christian's Mission:

“...go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...

Matt 28:19, 20a

Christian's Mission:

Explain your beliefs

Don't give up - trust, serve faithfully

Everyone has a story!

Do your part

Be prepared for opposition

“salt and light”

Keep doing His work