Thursday Evening Bible Study

Series: The Book of Isaiah

Teaching Summary for Week 134

<u>Isaiah Chapter 51:1 - 52:12</u>

The big picture

Chapters 42-54 exhibit a pattern that repeats several times. A **Servant song** (looking forward to the Lord Jesus Christ) is followed by a **proclamation of future salvation**.

Servant Song	Proclamation of future Salvation
#1. Isaiah 42:1-13	Isaiah 43:14-17
#2. Isaiah 49:1-13	Isaiah 49:14-50:3
#3. Isaiah 50:4-11	Isaiah 51:1-52:12
#4. Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Isaiah 54:1-17

We have now completed our study of the third Servant Song in chapter 50:4-11. We now move on to the proclamation of salvation which follows the third Servant Song.

Let's read that proclamation of salvation: Isaiah 51:1-52:12.

Overview of Isaiah 51:1-52:12

Chapter 50:10-11 addressed two opposite groups of people. The people of verse 10 were believers. The people of verse 11 were unbelievers.

This proclamation of salvation in Isaiah 51:1 - 52:12 is addressed to the people in verse 10 only – the <u>faithful remnant of Israel</u>. This is clear from the outset. **Isaiah 51:1** is addressed to those who pursue righteousness and seek the Lord.

But while the audience for the proclamation is the believing remnant of Israel, the salvation it declares is universal and timeless. It is proclaimed to every nation on earth. See **Isaiah 51:5-6**; **52:10**. And will last forever. See **Isaiah 51:6-8**, **11**.

The speaker alternates between the Lord and Isaiah. The Lord speaks to His people (and in one case to His Servant). Isaiah speaks to the Lord, to Jerusalem, and to Zion.

Verses	Speaker	Audience
51:1-8	The LORD	The remnant of Israel
51:9-11	Isaiah	The LORD
51:12-15	The LORD	His people
51:16	The LORD	His Servant
51:17-21	Isaiah	Jerusalem
51:22-23	The LORD	His people
52:1-2	Isaiah	Zion
52:3-6	The LORD	The captive daughter of Zion
52:7-12	Isaiah	Zion

The Servant of the Lord is in view in several passages:

51:4 the light of the peoples

51:5 "My arm"

51:9 the arm of the LORD

51:16 "I have put My words in your mouth and have covered you with the shadow of My hand [see 49:2]

52:6 "I am the one who is speaking, 'Here I am'

52:10 His holy arm

Outline of Isaiah 51:1-52:12

Section	Message
51:1-8	Listen to Me – My salvation shall be forever.
51:9-16	The LORD your Maker will soon free the exile.
51:17-23	The LORD your God contends for His people.
52:1-6	My people shall know My name.
52:7-12	The LORD has bared His holy arm.

Next week, we will start our verse-by-verse study.