

Thursday Evening Bible Study  
**Series: The Book of Isaiah**

Teaching Summary for Week 116

**Isaiah Chapters 49 -57**

Overview

The theme of these chapters is the Person and work of God's Servant who will bring salvation to Israel and the nations.

There are **three Servant Songs in chapters 49-53**. A Servant Song is a poem dedicated to an aspect of the Servant of the Lord. Each Servant Song is followed by a proclamation of salvation. All told, there are four Servant Songs in the book of Isaiah. We saw the first one in chapter 42.

Here, again, are all four Servant Songs:

Isaiah 42:1-7	Isaiah 49:1-9	Isaiah 50:4-9	Isaiah 52:13-53:12
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The righteous Servant chosen to bring forth justice to the nations</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Servant named in the womb to restore Israel to the LORD and bring the light of salvation to the ends of the earth</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The obedient Servant even to the point of suffering</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The suffering Servant who dies for the sins of the people and is raised from the dead.</b></p>

**Chapter 54** is the *call for the Jewish remnant to rejoice and sing* of their salvation. This call is directed to the remnant of Israel in the last days. After the call to sing, the Lord gives promises to that remnant. They refer to the blessings of Israel at the Second Coming of Christ. Let's read **Isaiah 54:1-8**.

**Chapter 55** is the *glorious invitation* for all men everywhere to partake of the salvation which the Servant – the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ – accomplished by His death on the cross. This salvation is received as a gracious gift through faith. Let's read **Isaiah 55:1-5**.

**Isaiah 56:1-8** is practical. It calls the redeemed, both Jew and Gentile, to *live righteous lives* in response to their redemption. It anticipates the millennial blessings being extended to the Gentiles. Let's read **Isaiah 56:1-8**.

**Isaiah 56:9-57:21** issues a *rebuke* to those who refuse this salvation but gives *comfort* to the lowly and contrite who seek to be faithful to the Lord. Let's read **Isaiah 57:11-15**.

## Isaiah Chapter 49

Chapter 49 reintroduces the Servant of the Lord. The Lord called Him from His mother's womb to restore the nation of Israel to God and to bring salvation to the end of the earth. There are also hints about the opposition and suffering that the Servant will face. Yet most of the chapter is brimming with promises of future blessing for Israel. It contains one of the most tender expressions of the Lord's love for Israel found anywhere in the Bible - verses 15 and 16.

### Simple Outline of Chapter 49

	Subject	Message
Verses 1-13	The Lord – God the Father - commissions His Servant, the Lord Jesus Christ	Isaiah 49:6-7
Verses 14-26	The Lord comforts Zion (the remnant of Israel)	Isaiah 49:14-16, 22

**Let's read Isaiah chapter 49 now.**

## More detailed outline of Chapter 49

Verses 1-13	The Lord commissions His Servant
1-4	His calling and preparation
5-9a	His mission
9b-12	Promised blessings
13	Shout for joy!
Verses 14-26	The Lord comforts Zion
14-16	Complaint and comfort
17-26	Promised blessings

The promises in verses 9-12 and 17-26 will be completely fulfilled at the Second Coming of Christ when He sets up His earthly kingdom and rules from the throne of David in Jerusalem (Zion).

### Verse-by-verse

**Verses 1-2:** The Servant of the Lord is speaking to the Gentiles: the islands, the peoples from afar. These are the first two verses of the second Servant Song. They are highly poetic.

Notice the repeating couplets. Each verse has a pair of them. The second line says the same thing as the first using different words. The fancy name for this is “synonymous parallelism”. Synonymous parallelism is a literary device often used in Hebrew poetry that involves the repetition of the same idea in two different ways. This device is used to highlight and amplify important ideas. We’ll see this again in verse 4.

Next week, we will see what these important ideas are.

