

Comfort In Christ

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #18

Isaiah 49:1-26– December 21, 2016 – Wednesday

- I. CHRIST HIDDEN IN THE SHADOW OF GOD’S HAND, 49:1-2
 - A. The pronoun “we” in verse one refers to Christ.
 - B. Jesus here in his per-incarnate state has a message for all people to hear.
 - C. Called from the womb:
 1. Jesus was called (or named) from his mother’s womb – Matthew 1:21 *And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.* See verse 1
 - D. Words like a sharp sword, verse 2
 1. Ephesians 6:17 *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:*
 2. His words would prick people in the heart – Acts 2:37 *Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?* These people would want to know what they should do.
 3. His words would cut people’s hearts –
 - a. Acts 5:33 *When they heard [that], they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them.*
 - b. Acts 7:54 *When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.*
 - E. God hid Jesus in his quiver
 1. An arrow in a quiver is a weapon with which to fight a battle.
 2. An arrow in also a tool hidden in a quiver until the time comes to use it.
 3. So was Jesus hidden in God’s quiver unto time for him to be used in his incarnation to bring about redemption.
 - a. 1 Corinthians 2:7 *But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:*
 - b. Revelation 2:17 speaks of the “hidden manna,” which is our feeding upon Christ, who is now hidden in heaven with his Father.
- II. CHRIST WORKED AS A SERVANT, 49:3-6
 - A. Proclaimed to be God’s servant, 3, and he will be glorified in that work.
 - B. But he (Christ) labored in vain.
 1. In vain, because his bodily work in preaching and undergoing persecution constantly, carrying the burden of the work of God on earth, he did not accomplish much, since most people did not believe on him, and the religious leaders desired to kill him.
 - C. But his judgment is with the Lord and his work with God, which makes his efforts worth every suffering, which are minor on earth compared to the glory that shall follow.
 - D. Glorified in the yes of the Lord, 5, even though Israel was not gathered at this time. Christ will be sure that his prophecy of Israel’s return to the land is accomplished, because God is his strength.

- E. Two promises given to Christ as Servant, 6
 - 1. First, he would accomplish the raising up of the tribes of Jacob to restore them to their homeland, 6a
 - 2. But not only so, he will also allow Christ to be a light unto the Gentiles so that he will be salvation unto the end of the earth.

III. CHRIST'S DAY OF SALVATION, 49:7-12

- A. The LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and the Holy One shall be despised and abhorred.
 - 1. In Isaiah 53:3 it says, *He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.*
- B. The Day of Salvation, 8-12
 - 1. God heard Christ in this day of salvation.
 - a. Hebrews 5:7 *Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;*
 - b. God heard Jesus' cry from the cross and his empathy for sinners, and God heard and was satisfied with his word and his work on the cross, in his death, and in his resurrection.
 - c. God accepted this for payment for our sins. This is God's propitiation, his acceptance of Jesus and his work, his intercession for sinners.
 - 2. Verse eight (8) is quoted by Paul in 2 Corinthians 6:2 (*For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*)
 - 3. God helped Christ in this day and preserved him
 - a. Notice Psalms 22:19 *But be not thou far from me, O LORD: O my strength, haste thee to help me.*
 - 4. God will give Christ a heritage
 - a. God will give Christ as a covenant of the people by Jesus executing and fulfilling the covenant between himself, the Holy Spirit, and God the Father.
 - b. This is to establish the earth, to make it new so we can live in it forever.
 - c. Though the heritages on earth be desolate, or empty, God will cause his people to inherit the new heaven and hearth.
 - 5. Freedom of prisoners, 9
 - a. Psalms 146:7 *Which executeth judgment for the oppressed: which giveth food to the hungry. The LORD looseth the prisoners:*
 - b. They will feed in the way, the way of the Lord, feeding upon the good word of God through God's grace.
 - 6. Believers will not hunger or thirst, 10
 - a. Revelation 7:16 *They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.*
 - 7. Christ will lead believers to springs of water, 10
 - a. John 7:38 *He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.*
 - 8. Salvation makes a way through the mountains, 11

- a. Speaking to Israel here, he speaks of God's making a way for them to go back to their homeland through the mountains, where robbers and killers dwell, leveling the mountains and making it easier for Israel to return.
 - b. In salvation, the mountains, or the hindrances to salvation are removed, and Jesus becomes the way, the truth, and the life. There is no other way. John 14:6.
9. In salvation, people will come through the mountains from everywhere in the world, depicting how that the grace of God and the gospel of God will be executed all through the earth, and people will come to Christ from all countries, north, south, east, and west.

IV. SINGING JOYFULLY TO THE LORD, 49:13-23

- A. Israel is instructed to sing and be joyful for the Lord's comfort and mercy, 13
- B. Zion (Israel) said that God has forgotten them, 14
- C. But how can a woman forget her own child? 15
- D. God has graven Israel upon the palms of his hands, 16
- E. God has not forgotten Israel and will never forget Israel –
 1. Romans 11:1-5 *I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, 3 Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. 4 But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. 5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.*
- F. Gentiles will come to the message of Israel, which is the message of Christ, 22-23
 1. Isaiah 40:11 *He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.*
 2. God's standard, Christ, will be set up to the people (Gentiles). They will hear the gospel.
 3. In return the Gentiles, who will come to Christ in great numbers, will preach again to the Jews, given them the gospel in order for them to believe in Christ for salvation, whom they have rejected.
 4. The Gentiles will carry their children back to their roots, which is the gospel of Christ taught to Israel through God's oracles. They will do this tenderly and sincerely for the cause of the gospel of Christ.
 5. Verse 23 tells us that many kings will give religious liberty to believers.
 6. These kings and the Gentiles people will bow down to Israel's true message of the gospel and will know that Christ is Lord and will not be ashamed, 23

V. ULTIMATE COMFORT OF CHRIST, 49:24-26

- A. God will contend with both Israel and her enemies, 24, and God will save the children.
- B. God will feed the enemies of the message of Israel (the gospel) with their own flesh, and everyone will eventually know that "I the LORD am thy Saviour, and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob." 26