

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

ISAIAH 49

Isaiah 49

Chapter forty-nine is the continued refrain of God’s blessing of Israel and that Israel was created to carry out the blessing of God upon the people of the whole earth. Israel was created to be a blessing to others. God is the God of Israel, yes, but He is the God of the whole earth. Israel was not an end in themselves, but rather a means of blessing to others. This is true of the church and of each person who is a follower of Jesus. Israel would be scattered during the days of the Babylonian exile and would return to their homeland, only to be scattered again. But these prophecies looked to a day when Israel would be back in the land to stay. This is the ultimate fulfillment of these prophecies. Many ask in present day as they did during the days of the first century and the days of the Apostle Paul, “Has God cast His people off?” “Has God forsaken Israel?” “Has God replaced Israel with the Church?” The Apostle Paul answered in Romans 11:1, **“I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.”** Look at how God answered Isaiah when even His own people of Zion asked the same question.

“Can a woman forget her nursing child and have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but I will not forget you. Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before Me... Thus says the Lord GOD, behold, I will lift up My hand to the nations and set up My standard to the peoples; and they will bring your sons in their bosom, and your daughters will be carried on their shoulders. Kings will be your guardians, and their princesses your nurses. They will bow down to you with their faces to the earth and lick the dust of your feet; and you will know that I am the LORD; those who hopefully wait for Me will not be put to shame.” (Isaiah 49:15-16; 22-23)

God will never forsake Israel and He will never forsake you. The God of Israel is your God and you can trust Him completely.

Prayer and Action Steps

*Thank you, God, that you will never leave me nor forsake me!
Amen*

Date _____ Scripture _____

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?
