

Isaiah 49

Believe God's Promises Over Your Feelings

Suggested Outline Of Isaiah by Warren Wiersbe

- 1-12** Sermons against Judah and Israel
- 13-23** Burdens of Judgment against the Gentiles
- 24-27** Songs about Future Glory
- 28-35** Woes of Coming Judgment from Assyria
- 36-39** Historical Interlude
- 40-48** God's Greatness—The Father vs. idols
- 49-57** God's Grace—The Son, God's Servant
- 58-66** God's Glory—The Spirit and the kingdom

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1. God's Faithful Servants May Feel Unfruitful (v1-4)

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Hebrews 4

14 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. **15** For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. **16** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

We certainly must believe that one of the great temptations He faced was discouragement. This passage shows that even though He ministered in difficult and discouraging circumstances, He never gave in to discouragement, but always put His trust in the LORD.

David Guzik, Enduring Word Commentary

John 1

10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him,
and the world did not know Him.

11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

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1 Corinthians 12

22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.

23 And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, **24** but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, **25** that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.

This verse clarifies that feelings of futility and faith in God need not be mutually exclusive. The Servant trusted God for the final outcome of His ministry though as He was carrying it out it appeared to be ineffective.

Thomas Constable, Expository Notes Of Dr. Constable

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Philippians 2

8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth

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Matthew 10

39 He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

40 "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.

41 He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. **42** And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."

1 Corinthians 15

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

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3. God's Beloved People May Feel Forgotten (v14)

These assurances were given to the chosen race on the eve of their return from Babylon. They were timid and reluctant to quit the familiar scenes of their captivity; they dreaded the dangers and privations of their way home, and questioned whether the great empire of their captors would ever let them go or allow their city to rise from its ruins. Therefore the Lord's voice takes on a tone of unusual persuasiveness.

F. B. Meyer, Through The Bible Day By Day

3. God's Beloved People May Feel Forgotten (v14)

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There are times when you wonder if God really cares about you, but He assures you that you are not forgotten. You are His beloved child, and He will never forget your name. He will gather His family and bring them home.

Warren Wiersbe, With The Word

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John 20

26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!"

27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

Romans 5

8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. 10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

4. God Promises A Blessed Future For His People (v15-26)

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The answer to despondency is to look to God, acknowledge his sovereignty and rest trustfully in him to perform his perfect will.

Alec J. Motyer, Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries

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1 Corinthians 4

4 For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. 5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

It is for the Lord to decide whether I am a failure or not. All I can do is labour and spend my strength, beyond that it is for him to judge.

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