

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

1) 06 Sept	Isaiah 01-05	God Comforts
2) 13 Sept	Isaiah 06	God Sends
3) 20 Sept	Isaiah 07-22	God Promises
4) 27 Sept	Isaiah 23-24	God Reigns
5) 04 Oct	Isaiah 25-30	God Saves
6) 11 Oct	Isaiah 31-36	God Protects
7) 18 Oct	Isaiah 37-39	God Listens
8) 25 Oct	Isaiah 40-44	God Renews
9) 01 Nov	Isaiah 45-48	God Acts
<b>10) 08 Nov</b>	<b>Isaiah 49-52</b>	<b>God Comforts</b>
11) 15 Nov	Isaiah 53-57	God Justifies
12) 22 Nov	Isaiah 58-64	God Expects
13) 29 Nov	Isaiah 65-66	God Restores

**INTRODUCTION**

- The Suffering Messiah is introduced

**Lifeway's ETB Focus:** ..... **Isaiah 49:1-13**

**OPENING QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

- How should we interpret prophetic passages?  Figuratively?  Literally?  Allegorically?  How ever my Pastor takes it?
- The tougher question is how should we apply prophetic passages?

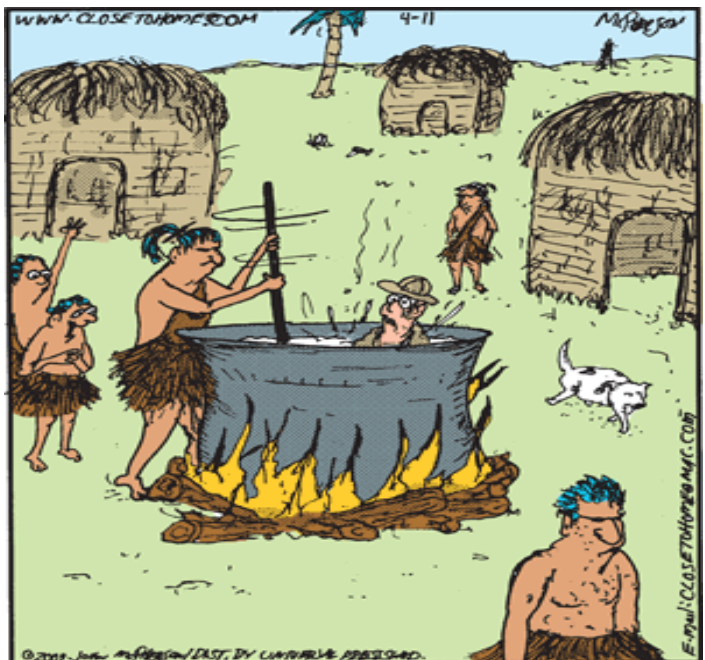
Passage	Comments
Isaiah 49:1-26	<p><b>Back to the Future Again</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv1-6. The Lord called me from the womb                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Most scholars see this passage referring to Jesus</li> <li>♦ v2. My mouth is a sharp sword. What is a sword used for?.....<a href="#">Rev 1:16; 2:16; 19:15, 21</a></li> <li>♦ v3. God's glory will be seen in Him</li> <li>♦ v6. He (Jesus) will be a light to the nations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv7-13. Possible allusion to the Millennium/New Heavens &amp; Earth when Israel is restored fully</li> <li>• vv14-21. BUT WAIT, right now (during Isaiah's era), God has forsaken Israel due to her atrocious sins</li> <li>• vv22-23. AND Back to the Future again when God sets Israel over all nations</li> <li>• vv24-26. YET, don't forget the Transition Period between the Millennium and the New Heavens and Earth when God finally destroys Israel's enemies</li> <li>• Why the flip-flopping between present &amp; future events?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Only 1 Reason → To show better days are coming</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
50:1-11	<p><b>God is Divorced !! Say What ??</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v1. Where is your mother's certificate of divorce?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Though God hates divorce (<a href="#">Malachi 2:16</a>), we see here it is inevitable, even for Him (<a href="#">Jeremiah 3:8</a>), when one's spouse is unrepentant of serious sin</li> <li>♦ Remember – God's covenant with Israel was an everlasting covenant, akin to a marriage ... <a href="#">Gen 17:7</a></li> <li>♦ <b>BUT Recall – Peace has Priority</b> ..... <a href="#">1Cor 7:15</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv2-3. God would need to "beat" Israel/Jacob for generations for their infidelity (drought, economic ruin)</li> <li>• vv4-9. Is there Hope for a hopeless sinner or situation?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ YES. God's loving hand is long enough to reach out to the vilest of sinners &amp; the toughest of situations</li> <li>♦ How? Through a substitution. Someone else must be willing to take their beating/our beating</li> <li>♦ <b>Rescue is On Its Way.</b> Jesus, our Lord &amp; Savior, gave his back to be whipped, his beard to be pulled, his cheeks to be punched, his face to be spat upon</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv10-11. Israel/Jacob (&amp; we) have a responsibility. They need to willingly repent/return to their loving God.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ BUT would they? Over time, only a remnant would.</li> <li>♦ Yet, God's love &amp; sacrifice was available for ALL</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
51:1-23	<p><b>What Perspective Should We Have About LIFE?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv1-6. If God is for us, who can be against us? <a href="#">Ro 8:31</a></li> <li>• vv7-12. God is our comfort. Why be afraid of man who dies &amp; withers away. His salvation is readily available.</li> <li>• v13. Fear/respect God who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the world – and who can cast both soul and body into Hell ..... <a href="#">Mat 10:28</a></li> <li>• vv14-23. And for Israel, God contends for His people, now and forever. One day the tables will be turned on Israel's enemies</li> </ul>
52:1-15	<p><b>He Will Be Marred More Than Any Man ..... v14</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v1. Jerusalem is called "the holy city." This is in stark contrast to Jerusalem being portrayed as an immoral harlot in <a href="#">Rev 17-19</a>. Jerusalem's harlotries actually began during the reigns of Judean kings Johoram &amp; Manasseh.....<a href="#">2Kings 21:9; 2Chron 21:11</a></li> <li>• v7. God welcomes the preaching of peace, good news, salvation, and godly praise → Possible allusion to the Gospel message of Jesus Christ</li> <li>• v10. One Day the whole world will see God's salvation</li> <li>• v13. My servant (Jesus) shall be this preacher of peace – and he shall be lifted high (cross?)</li> <li>• v14. His appearance will be marred beyond human recognition</li> <li>• v15. ...and by this he shall shake up the nations, but that Day is not yet. Possibly allusion to the New Earth</li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS**

- It is hard to clearly grasp the past, present, future, & eternal timelines being addressed at times, but looking back from hindsight as our generation can do, we can clearly see the fulfillment of the various messianic prophecies that substantiate our faith to be His witnesses.
- So, let's be bold in our walk of faith in these last days, living obedient, holy, righteous lives as a testimony to a fallen world of God's word

**NEXT WEEK: Isaiah 53-57.** Israel's Messiah seemingly dies an ignoble death – by being pierced through, yet by His death we are healed, but healed of what? And God's ways are so much higher than ours, how in the world can we even figure out His plan and live by it successfully?



**"Mom, can I lick the spoon?!"**