

CHAPTER 50

THUS saith the LORD, Where *is* the bill of your mother's divorcement, whom I have put away? or which of my creditors *is it* to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and for your transgressions *is* your mother put away.

2 Wherefore, when I came, *was there* no man? when I called, *was there* none to answer? Is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot redeem? or have I no power to deliver? behold, at my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a wilderness: their fish stinketh, because *there is* no water, and dieth for thirst.

3 I clothe the heavens with blackness, and I make sackcloth their covering.

4. The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to *him that is* weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

5 ¶ The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.

6 I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

7 ¶ For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed.

8 *He is* near that justifieth me; who will contend with me? let us stand together: who *is* mine adversary? let him come near to me.

9 Behold, the Lord GOD will help me; who *is* he *that* shall condemn me? lo, they all shall wax old as a garment; the moth shall eat them up.

10 ¶ Who *is* among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh *in* darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

11 Behold, all ye that kindle a fire, that compass *yourselves* about

with sparks: walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks *that* ye have kindled. This shall ye have of mine hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow.

CHAPTER 51

HEARKEN to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock *whence* ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit *whence* ye are digged.

2 Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah *that* bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.

3 For the LORD shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

4 ¶ Hearken unto me, my people; and give ear unto me, O my nation: for a law shall proceed from me, and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people.

5 My righteousness *is* near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the people; the isles shall wait upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust.

6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished.

7 ¶ Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart *is* my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings.

8 For the moth shall eat them up like a garment, and the worm shall eat them like wool: but my righteousness shall be for ever, and my salvation from generation to generation.

9 ¶ Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. *Art* thou not it that hath cut Rahab, *and* wounded the dragon?

10 *Art* thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep; that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?

11 Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and ever-

lasting joy *shall be* upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; *and* sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

12 I, *even* I, *am* he that comforteth you: who *art* thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man *that* shall die, and of the son of man *which* shall be made *as* grass;

13 And forgettest the LORD thy maker, that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth; and hast feared continually every day because of the fury of the oppressor, as if he were ready to destroy? and where *is* the fury of the oppressor?

14 The captive exile hasteneth that he may be loosed, and that he should not die in the pit, nor that his bread should fail.

15 But I *am* the LORD thy God, that divided the sea, whose waves roared: The LORD of hosts *is* his name.

16 And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou *art* my people.

17 ¶ Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his

fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, *and* wrung *them* out.

18 *There is* none to guide her among all the sons *whom* she hath brought forth; neither *is there any* that taketh her by the hand of all the sons *that* she hath brought up.

19 These two *things* are come unto thee; who shall be sorry for thee? desolation, and destruction, and the famine, and the sword: by whom shall I comfort thee?

20 Thy sons have fainted, they lie at the head of all the streets, as a wild bull in a net: they are full of the fury of the LORD, the rebuke of thy God.

21 ¶ Therefore hear now this, thou afflicted, and drunken, but not with wine:

22 Thus saith thy Lord the LORD, and thy God *that* pleadeth the cause of his people, Behold, I have taken out of thine hand the cup of trembling, *even* the dregs of the cup of my fury; thou shalt no more drink it again:

23 But I will put it into the hand of them that afflict thee; which have said to thy soul, Bow down, that we may go over: and thou hast laid thy body as the ground, and as the street, to them that went over.

CHAPTER 52

AWAKE, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

2 Shake thyself from the dust; arise, *and* sit down, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion.

3 For thus saith the LORD, Ye have sold yourselves for nought; and ye shall be redeemed without money.

4 For thus saith the Lord GOD, My people went down aforetime into Egypt to sojourn there; and the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.

5 Now therefore, what have I here, saith the LORD, that my people is taken away for nought? they that rule over them make them to howl, saith the LORD; and my name continually every day *is* blasphemed.

6 Therefore my people shall know my name: therefore *they shall know* in that day that I *am* he that doth speak: behold, *it is* I.

7 ¶ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good

tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

8 Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion.

9 ¶ Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

10 The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

11 ¶ Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean *thing*; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD.

12 For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the LORD will go before you; and the God of Israel *will be* your rereward.

13 ¶ Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high.

14 As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:

15 So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for *that* which had not been told them shall they see; and *that* which they had not heard shall they consider.

CHAPTER 53

WHO hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, *there is* no beauty that we should desire him.

3 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.

4 ¶ Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath

laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither *was any* deceit in his mouth.

10 ¶ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his

soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

CHAPTER 54

SING, O barren, thou *that* didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou *that* didst not travail with child: for more *are* the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the LORD.

2 Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes;

3 For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

4 Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more.

5 For thy Maker *is* thine husband; the LORD of hosts *is* his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

6 For the LORD hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God.

7 For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee.

8 In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer.

9 For this *is as* the waters of Noah unto me: for *as* I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

10 For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

11 ¶ O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, *and* not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires.

12 And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones.

13 And all thy children *shall be* taught of the LORD; and great *shall be* the peace of thy children.

14 In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.

15 Behold, they shall surely gather together, *but* not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake.

16 Behold, I have created the

smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy.

17 ¶ No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Chapter 50 presents the disobedient Israel versus the obedient servant. Verses 1-3 present the people who have been disobedient to the Lord. They are charged with responsibility for their having been in captivity and having divorced themselves from the Lord and condemned because of their unbelief, disobedience, and disregard for God's power. In verses 4-9 the coming of the Servant is foretold. This Servant is Jesus and He was to come as one who would be obedient to suffering rejection and death. The wondrous thing given in verses 7-9 is that the Servant would conquer as a courageous champion. His strength would be His dependence upon God, doing His will, and defying all opposition. In verses 10 and 11 the way is given to those who are seeking to come out of darkness into light. That way is by trusting in the Lord.

In chapters 51 and 52 the redemption of Israel and the restoration of that country is prophesied. Israel's release from sufferings of the captivity is as certain as God's wondrous works of the past. It is a part of God's eternal plan, building from Abraham and Sarah, through the ages, a redeemed world of endless glory.

Verses 1-12 of chapter 52 give us a picture of Jerusalem in the Kingdom Age. The last three verses of the chapter give a vision of God's Servant, who was so marred that His appearance was not as the Son of man, not even human. The brutality of the treatment given to our Saviour can be followed in

Matthew 26:67,68 and 27:27-30. One of the glorious proofs that He was and is our Saviour is that human hands could not destroy Him. He gave Himself to the brutality of the crowd, but He has been exalted and is today seated at the right hand of the Father. We serve a living Saviour, one who bore our sin and overcame every punishment that wicked men could deliver.

One of my favorite verses is chapter 53:6, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." This great chapter is one of the best loved chapters in all the Bible. It records, in vivid detail, how our Saviour was to suffer and die. It is so vivid that one would almost think of Isaiah as standing at the foot of the cross. It speaks of it in past tense as though, in his mind, it had already happened. Yet it was written seven centuries before Calvary.

Chapter 54 tells how the servant of God, by his suffering, would lead His people onward and upward to heights of endless glory.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established" (Proverbs 4:26).

BIRTHDAY TODAY

ROSIE JOHNSON

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

Spend this month reviewing the previous 13 lessons.

For today, review Memory Verse Assignment 20 (found on page 9).

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

588 B.C.

NEBUCHADNEZZAR BURNED THE TEMPLE AND ALL THE HOUSES IN JERUSALEM.

II Kings 25:8,9 and Jeremiah 52:12,13

Sometime in your leisure time read the story of Nebuchadnezzar. Read how God punished him and actually made him an animal for a season because of his sins. Read how he repented of his sins. This reminds us again, *"Your sins will find you out," "The wages of sin is death,"* and *"The soul that sinneth, it shall die."* (Numbers 32:23; Romans 6:23; and Ezekiel 18:4)

Jack Hyles tells the story of when he was a boy, he would help plant a garden. He would be given some seed by his mother or by his Aunt Octa to go out and plant in the garden. He would put a seed here and a seed there only to find that he was not dropping the seeds fast enough. In an effort to get all the seeds planted, he dropped the rest of the seeds in one place. He covered and hid the seeds realizing that no one could see beneath the soil and that his sin would be hidden. Weeks passed and one day he was called in and asked if he had planted the seed properly. His answer was, "Yes." He still thought that his sin was hidden. He was taken to the garden, and to his surprise the place where he had planted a handful of seeds had plants growing in bunches, and he had been found out. We may think that our acts are hidden, but they are not. Let us remember to sow righteousness so that we might reap the same.

1789

THE CREATION OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

1825

THE LOCOMOTIVE WAS INVENTED BY STEPHENSON.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1898

BLACK LONGSHOREMEN STRUCK FOR HIGHER WAGES and better working conditions in Galveston, Texas.

1904

RALPH J. BUNCHE, DIPLOMAT AND WINNER OF NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, BORN (death in 1971).

1970

FOUR PERSONS, INCLUDING THE PRESIDING JUDGE, KILLED IN COURTHOUSE SHOOTOUT in San Rafael, Marin County, California. Police charged that activist Angela Davis helped provide the weapons used by the convicts and issued a nationwide warrant for her arrest.

1867

DEATH OF ACTOR IRA ALDRIDGE (63), Lodes, Poland.

1893

FIFTY-THIRD CONGRESS (1893-95) CONVENED. One black congressman, George W. Marray, South Carolina. One hundred and eighteen blacks were reported lynched in 1893.

1954

CHARLES H. MAHONEY WAS CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE and became the first black to serve as a full delegate to the United Nations.

1960

BLACK AND WHITE STUDENTS STAGED KNEEL-IN DEMONSTRATIONS in Atlanta churches.

1966

RACE RIOT, LANSING, MICHIGAN.

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

DIFFICULT PROBLEMS SOLVED: "I MAY LOSE MY JOB AND POSITION"

(Assignment 20)

Please review these verses today. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning" link back on the DailyKJV page.)

() Mark 8:36

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

() Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

() Philippians 4:19

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

() Psalms 37:25

I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

() Psalms 84:11

For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.