

Isaiah  
Chapter 49

v. 5-- We were formed from the womb to be His servants--to bring people to Him, though many have strayed from Him, yet we shall be glorious in the eyes of the Lord. As long as we stay close to Him, we are His glory, and He is our strength.

v. 6-- Even though it is a big job to save the world, our part is made easy by God's Spirit in us. If we follow that Spirit, He'll make our burden light (Matthew 11:30). We are to be the light of the world. Jesus told us to shine for them. We are to be His vehicles for His salvation of the earth. We have to put His Word back into the earth to save it. We have to bring more people to Him to increase that Word in the earth!!

v. 7-- Thus says God and Jesus, whom man rejected. All will bow to Jesus when He is fully glorified, because of the Lord who is "faithful"--This word means to hold us up. God always holds us up and supports us.--He chose us!!!

v. 8-- At the right time, (when we were lost) He saved us. He will preserve us (protect us--maintain us) He will keep us in His care and maintain our souls (minds and emotions) to stay with Him. He gave us the Covenant of Christ to establish the earth--to put His Word back into the earth, to occupy it for Him. When an explorer finds a new land he must establish a colony to claim it. God wants us to establish a colony on earth for Him to occupy it from Satan, and to claim it for future generations, so other peoples' hearts aren't wasted--so Jesus can occupy them.

v. 9-- When we preach Jesus, we can free people from the inner prisons they're in and darkness they see, as they have no hope, and the veil is over their eyes. Then they will feed on the nourishment of the Lord and live in His peace.

v. 10-- Christ, the Good Shepherd, will protect them and they'll have the inner spring of living water and he'll guide their lives, as He does ours.

v. 11-- He finds a way for us in difficulties. He'll show us a way over the mountains, not around them. (See Psalm 36:6)

v. 12-- He gathers us all together in one spirit.

v. 13-- Rejoice in the Lord!!!

v. 14-- People feel God forgets them in times of trouble--sometimes it's hard to see Him during those times.