

# Pentwater Bible Church

*Isaiah Message 115*

*June 13, 2021*



*Abraham Meets Melchizedek by Rubens Cir. 1625*

Daniel E. Woodhead – Pastor Teacher

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The Book of Isaiah  
One-Hundred-Fifteen  
THE MESSIAH OF ISRAEL  
June 13, 2021  
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Isaiah 49:13-26

*<sup>13</sup>Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for Jehovah hath comforted his people, and will have compassion upon his afflicted.*

*<sup>14</sup>But Zion said, Jehovah hath forsaken me, and the Lord hath forgotten me. <sup>15</sup>Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, these may forget, yet will not I forget thee. <sup>16</sup>Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. <sup>17</sup>Thy children make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth from thee. <sup>18</sup>Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together, and come to thee. As I live, saith Jehovah, thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all as with an ornament, and gird thyself with them, like a bride. <sup>19</sup>For, as for thy waste and thy desolate places, and thy land that hath been destroyed, surely now shalt thou be too strait for the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away. <sup>20</sup>The children of thy bereavement shall yet say in thine ears, The place is too strait for me; give place to me that I may dwell. <sup>21</sup>Then shalt thou say in thy heart, Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have been bereaved of my children, and am solitary, an exile, and wandering to and fro? and who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where were they?*

*<sup>22</sup>Thus saith the Lord Jehovah, Behold, I will lift up my hand to the nations, and set up my ensign to the peoples; and they shall bring thy sons in their bosom, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. <sup>23</sup>And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their faces to the earth, and lick the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am Jehovah; and they that wait for me shall not be put to shame.*

*<sup>24</sup>Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captives be delivered? <sup>25</sup>But thus saith Jehovah, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered; for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children. <sup>26</sup>And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I, Jehovah, am thy Saviour, and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob (ASV, 1901).*

## THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD

### Isaiah 49:13

*<sup>13</sup>Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for Jehovah hath comforted his people, and will have compassion upon his afflicted (ASV, 1901).*

Isaiah is so joyful knowing that the Lord has comfort, and compassion on His people. He expresses it as a personification of nature to demonstrate his pleasure regarding the Lord who *will have compassion upon his afflicted*. He says Heaven and earth are called upon to rejoice and *break forth into singing* because the glory of God will be realized through the Redeemer for Israel and the world. Continuing this expression of joy Isaiah says that even the mountains are called upon to break forth into joyful shouting for the compassion Jehovah will have on His people. Now every obstacle to the restoration of Lord's people to their Messianic Kingdom promise has been removed.

### HAS GOD FORGOTTEN THE NATION ISRAEL?

#### Isaiah 49:14–17

*<sup>14</sup>But Zion said, Jehovah hath forsaken me, and the Lord hath forgotten me. <sup>15</sup>Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, these may forget, yet will not I forget thee. <sup>16</sup>Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. <sup>17</sup>Thy children make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth from thee (ASV, 1901).*

The People of Israel had evidently confided in Isaiah that they were concerned that the Lord had forgotten them. Israel is encouraged not to lose hope, but to continue to wait for the Lord

The section 49:14–26 focuses on the theme of children, which is an important motif in this book from chapter 7 onward. The unit is divided in two with the longer segment here first. It deals with the insistence by God that far from forgetting Zion's fears, He keeps her future constantly before Himself. She may feel that with all her children dead through persecution and her husband (God) having forsaken her, her life is over; but God says that He will bring her children from all over the world. She will not be put to shame if she puts her trust in God.

The second segment 49:24–26 addresses a question that the assertion in v. 23 raises. Is God's love strong enough to defeat the tyrants who hold the people of the world in captive? The answer is a strong yes, then begins to assert God's loving power.

Isaiah in commune with God reveals His answer speaking directly to the people. He assures them of His unfailing love for His people Israel. His primary interest is to restore them to Himself. How could they ever imagine that His love was as fickle as theirs. This same concept was expressed by Him to them through the prophet Hosea.

Hosea 6:4–11

*<sup>4</sup>O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the dew that goeth early away. <sup>5</sup>Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth. <sup>6</sup>For I desire goodness, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt-offerings. <sup>7</sup>But they like Adam have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me. <sup>8</sup>Gilead is a city of them that work iniquity; it is stained with blood. <sup>9</sup>And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so the company of priests murder in the way toward Shechem; yea, they have committed lewdness. <sup>10</sup>In the house of Israel I have seen a horrible thing: there whoredom is found in Ephraim, Israel is defiled. <sup>11</sup>Also, O Judah, there is a harvest appointed for thee, when I bring back the captivity of my people (ASV, 1901).*

God uses very strong images of personal attachment to confirm that He has not forgotten or forsaken Israel. He asks a rhetorical question concerning mothers and their attachments to the children they have borne and nursed. Can mothers forget? The assumed answer is, of course not! God does not forget either. God's attachment to His people is far stronger than a mother's to her children. God asks us to think of a mother's attachment and then go one step farther. That is, what God's attachment to us is. It is important to realize that even though God's corrections to us gives us the sense of masking the truth from our eyes that He loves us because one of His characteristics is that, He *is* love! Earthly love, is limited and does not equate to His love. His love has no limits whatsoever. In fact, to certify this He says that He has engraved the nation Israel anthropomorphically upon the palms of His hands.

This is followed by a Hebrew poetic parallel expression but with additional specification. Here He identifies them through the walls of the city of Jerusalem. This is another figure of speech called a synecdoche where one thing, here the city walls, stand for the whole nation.

Those who will hasten are sons who will return after the captivity, but those who will depart are their destroyers, that is, the Babylonians and future enemies. The precise significance of *thy destroyers* is that, they are in opposition to the God of Israel, and instead of building up His city they are in one way or another destroying it. The enemies of the kingdom will depart and the true citizens will take their rightful place therein. Jesus spoke of this concept in parable form.

Matthew 13:47:50

*<sup>47</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:<sup>48</sup> Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.<sup>49</sup> So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,<sup>50</sup> And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.<sup>51</sup> Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord (KJV).*

## THE FINAL GATHERING OF ISRAEL

### Isaiah 49:18–21

*<sup>18</sup>Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together, and come to thee. As I live, saith Jehovah, thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all as with an ornament, and gird thyself with them, like a bride. <sup>19</sup>For, as for thy waste and thy desolate places, and thy land that hath been destroyed, surely now shalt thou be too strait for the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away. <sup>20</sup>The children of thy bereavement shall yet say in thine ears, The place is too strait for me; give place to me that I may dwell. <sup>21</sup>Then shalt thou say in thy heart, Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have been bereaved of my children, and am solitary, an exile, and wandering to and fro? and who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where were they (ASV, 1901)?*

Israel is called on to lift her downcast eyes and look around to see her children returning to the promise land. But can it really be true? Again, and again through the ages Jerusalem and the people of Israel have been persecuted. This great ingathering is not a figment of the imagination of Isaiah. As often as Zion has been decimated, she has risen from the ashes, surrounded by new offspring. God has sworn it to be fact. As surely as God lives, the wretched old woman, having lost everything, will have children around her as bright as morning. Isaiah says that just as a bride clothes herself in finery, so will Zion deck herself with children. This has already happened again and again starting with the Zionist movement of the late 1800's and through the twentieth century and will continue to happen until the final ingathering at the end of the Tribulation. Zion's children will be her glory. God has sworn it.

The desolation they experienced after their ruin and captivity will pass, and the time will come when the land of Israel will be too narrow to contain all her inhabitants. The conclusion is *I shall restore*. In addition, those who now swallow up the city will be removed far away so that there will be none of them remaining to cause any fear from them any longer.

The sons are speaking now one to another. The place where the sons are to dwell, they realize is too narrow for them, which implies that they are very numerous. The command is given so that there will be more room and the people who speak here will find a place in which to dwell. Zion regarded herself as a widow; and her Husband, the Lord, had not forsaken nor forgotten her. The children who will one day crowd to her are legitimate children, begotten through her.

### Ezekiel 36:37-38

*<sup>37</sup>Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: For this, moreover, will I be inquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them: I will increase them with men like a flock. <sup>38</sup>As the flock for sacrifice, as the flock of Jerusalem in her appointed feasts, so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men; and they shall know that I am Jehovah (ASV, 1901).*

This text explains that the national salvation of the Nation Israel will result in a population increase of Jews, all knowing the Lord. This increase must come from the remnant of 4.5 million who made it through the Tribulation because they will have the natural bodies.

Ezekiel 37:23

*<sup>23</sup>neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will save them out of all their dwelling-places, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God (ASV, 1901).*

This is an affirmation that the Jews in the Messianic Kingdom will be sinless as the Lord will “*cleanse them*” and they will no longer defile themselves with idols, detestable things, or any other sins. As a result, they will not participate in the Gog and Magog uprising led by Satan at the end of the Messianic Kingdom (Revelation 20:7-9).

THE NATIONS WILL USHER THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL HOME

Isaiah 49:22–23

*<sup>22</sup>Thus saith the Lord Jehovah, Behold, I will lift up my hand to the nations, and set up my ensign to the peoples; and they shall bring thy sons in their bosom, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. <sup>23</sup>And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their faces to the earth, and lick the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am Jehovah; and they that wait for me shall not be put to shame (ASV, 1901).*

The Gentile nations will be moved by God to bring the children of Israel back to their promised land. The fact that Israel is to become the head of the Gentiles was part of God’s promises to Israel in the Book of Deuteronomy. This will be a reward for obedience to God.

Deuteronomy 15:6

*<sup>6</sup>For Jehovah thy God will bless thee, as he promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt rule over many nations, but they shall not rule over thee (ASV, 1901).*

Deuteronomy 28:1

*<sup>1</sup>And it shall come to pass, if you shall hearken diligently unto the voice of Jehovah your God, to observe to do all his commandments which I command you this day, that Jehovah your God will set you on high above all the nations of the earth (ASV, 1901).*

The Gentiles will not only conduct the Jews back to the Land of Israel, but they will be possessed by Israel. They will become servants to Israel. After Israel’s regeneration and restoration, the Gentiles will draw closer to Israel in order to worship the God of Israel. In fact, as Israel is being regathered, not only will this be accomplished with the help of angels (Isaiah 14:1–2), but the Gentiles will be conducting the Jews back into the Land. Finally, the Gentiles will be possessed by Israel and will become the servants of Israel.

At that time, the Gentiles of every social level will become the servants of Israel (v. 23a), and Israel will never again be shamed by them. According to Isaiah 60:1–3, the reason why Israel will become the center of Gentile attention is due to the fact that the *Shechinah* Glory will abide over Israel.

#### ISRAEL'S ENEMIES WILL COMPLAIN

Isaiah 49:24–26

*<sup>24</sup>Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captives be delivered? <sup>25</sup>But thus saith Jehovah, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered; for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children. <sup>26</sup>And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I, Jehovah, am thy Saviour, and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob (ASV, 1901).*

This is a statement as it were of an objection to the promises of the prophecy. It anticipates the complaint after power is taken from the enemy, and his perceived right to detain the Jewish people, and are the words of the nations among whom the Jews were, bragging of, and opposing to what God said. They are stating their case to keep the people in captivity, and defying any attempt to remove them. God says that nothing will stop Him from restoring His people Israel to the promise land and giving them a prominent position in the Messianic Kingdom.

*And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh* is His statement which refers to the fact that they should destroy one another, which was true of some of the Babylonians, who assisted Cyrus in taking the city, and destroying the inhabitants of it. *and they shall be drunken with their own blood as with sweet wine;* which denotes the abundance of blood that shall be shed, and the pleasure in shedding of it. It will be a righteous thing with God to give the enemies of Israel her own blood to drink, even so as to be made drunk with it as with wine. *And all flesh shall know that I the Lord am thy, Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob;* it shall be obvious to all the world, that Jehovah, the *Lord* of lords, the Lord of the whole earth, is the *Savior* and *Redeemer* of His people out of all their afflictions, oppressions, and persecutions. This will include all who persecuted the Jews up to and including the antichrist. All this will be seen, and publicly acknowledged, when antichrist shall be destroyed, and the people of God saved by which it will be obvious, that is it is according to the Lord's work. God's work will be seen as wondrous in the eyes of men, that He is *the mighty One of Jacob*, able to help and save them.

Next message: GOD'S PROMISES TO ISRAEL

E-mail: [Pentwaterbiblechurch@scofieldinstitute.org](mailto:Pentwaterbiblechurch@scofieldinstitute.org) Call: 877-706-247