

Song of the Servant: Isaiah 50

This is what the LORD says:

“Where is your mother’s certificate of divorce
with which I sent her away?

Or to which of my creditors
did I sell you?

Because of your sins you were sold;

because of your transgressions your mother was sent away.

²When I came, why was there no one?

When I called, why was there no one to answer?

Was my arm too short to deliver you?

Do I lack the strength to rescue you?

By a mere rebuke I dry up the sea,

I turn rivers into a desert;

their fish rot for lack of water

and die of thirst.

³I clothe the heavens with darkness

and make sackcloth its covering.”

⁴The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue,

to know the word that sustains the weary.

He wakens me morning by morning,

wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

⁵The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears;

I have not been rebellious,

I have not turned away.

⁶I offered my back to those who beat me,

my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard;

I did not hide my face

from mocking and spitting.

⁷Because the Sovereign LORD helps me,

I will not be disgraced.

Therefore have I set my face like flint,

and I know I will not be put to shame.

⁸He who vindicates me is near.

Who then will bring charges against me?

Let us face each other!

Who is my accuser?

Let him confront me!

⁹It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me.

Who will condemn me?

They will all wear out like a garment;

the moths will eat them up.

Vv. 1-3 — Israel: The Failing servant

Vv. 4-9 — Christ: The Faithful servant

Vv. 10-11 — Jewish remnant: The Fearing servant

Vv. 1-3: Israel: The Failing Servant

“Because of your sins you were sold; because of your transgressions your mother was sent away.” (Vs. 1)

Vv. 4-9 Jesus — a Faithful Servant

“The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.” (Vs. 4)

“I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away.” (Vs. 5)

He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me?

Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who will condemn me? (Vs. 8)

“The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.” (Vs. 4)

1. Christ as Servant is conversant with God's Word

“My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me.” John 7:16

“The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.” John 14:10

“For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them.” John 17:8

“No one ever spoke the way this man does”. John 7:46

“Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.” Mark 1:35

“Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. Matt 5:19

“That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.” Matt 19:5

“Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?” Matt 26:53

2. He was committed to God's will

“Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: “Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. Then I said, ‘Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll— I have come to do your will, my God.’” Hebrews 10:5