

Isaiah 49 sits within Isaiah 40–55, addressed to Israel in exile, a people longing for restoration and assurance of God’s promises. The chapter introduces the Servant of the Lord, chosen and formed by God for a redemptive mission. While the Servant speaks from a setting of apparent failure and discouragement, God declares that His purposes stand firm. Crucially, the Servant’s role extends beyond restoring Israel to becoming “a light to the nations,” revealing God’s saving intention for all peoples. From an evangelical perspective, this passage points forward to Jesus Christ, the ultimate Servant, whose life, death, and resurrection accomplish salvation. It highlights God’s sovereign grace, the priority of mission, and the call for believers to trust God’s faithfulness and participate in His global redemptive plan.

Have you ever felt called to something but doubted when you didn’t see instant outcomes?

Read Isaiah 49:1-7

1. In v1 and v5, what stands out about the servant being called “from the womb”? Read Jeremiah 1:5 Have you ever sensed God shaping or preparing you before you recognised it? What did that look like?
2. In v2, what do the images “sharp sword” and “polished arrow” suggest? What practices help us speak life? James 3:5–10
3. In v4, what emotions are expressed by the servant? What helps you keep trusting God when you cannot see results?

4. Do you struggle more with: Feeling insignificant or Feeling overwhelmed by responsibility? Why?
5. What kind of encouragement strengthens you most?
6. In v4b, where does the servant anchor hope? See 2 Timothy 1:12. Why is this important spiritually?
7. What helps you to anchor your hope in Christ?
8. In v5, what is the servant first called to do? Read Matthew 15:24, what does this teach us about priorities in mission?
9. Where do you currently sense God may be calling you: To serve? To grow? To step out in faith?
10. In v6 God enlarges his mission to the Gentiles. What happens if our mission becomes too focused on one aspect?
11. How can a church remain focused and yet embracing of the other aspects of God’s mission?
12. Has there been a time when God has enlarged your vision? What happened?

Prayer Points

Please pray for the Toddler group, the volunteer team and those who attend. Pray for valuable connections and opportunities to share the love of Christ.

In 2023, BMS supporters gave to Days of Plenty, supporting farmers in Uganda through JLH. Praise God that this work continues to thrive, with future plans involving the use of a grain mill to boost income for those most in need.

Sermon Notes



BIBLE STUDY

March 1st 2026

Isaiah 49:1-7 God's Salvation to the Ends of the Earth

The Book of Isaiah presents powerful prophetic visions that have helped to shape theology, especially regarding God's holiness, judgment, and redemption. Written in a time of political turmoil, Isaiah foretells both near and distant events. Many prophecies have been fulfilled in history and in the life of Jesus Christ. Isaiah predicted the fall of Babylon, the return of Israel from exile, and the rise of Cyrus of Persia by name. Most notably, Isaiah 53 describes a suffering servant whose rejection, suffering, and redemptive death closely parallel the New Testament accounts of Jesus, reinforcing Isaiah's enduring significance.

This series will help us to be faithful as we renew our focus upon the Lord, and fruitful as He fulfils His word.

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001