

The Greatness of God’s Mercy

Isaiah 49:8-26

Ex. 34:6-7 The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God **merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness**, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the fourth generation.”

Mic. 7:18-19 Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he **delights in steadfast love**. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

I. God is Good

Is. 49:10, 13 They shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for **he who has pity** on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them....
Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the LORD has comforted his people and **will have compassion** on his afflicted.

A. The Goodness of God’s Covenant

Is. 49:8 Thus says the LORD: ‘In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and **give you as a covenant to the people**, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages.’

John 11:41-42 And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that **you have heard me**. **I knew that you always hear me**, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.

Heb. 5:7-8 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. 8 Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.

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Is. 42:6-7 I, the Lord, have called You in righteousness; **I will take You by the hand and keep You**; I will give You as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, and from the prison those who sit in darkness.

B. The Goodness of God's Salvation

Is. 49:8 Thus says the Lord: "In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people ...

Is. 49:8-10... to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages; saying to the prisoners, 'Come out,' to those who are in darkness, 'Appear.' They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them.

Luke 4:18-19 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Is. 49:9-10... They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them.

Ps. 23:1-4 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Ps. 23:5-6 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

John 10:14-15 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Phil. 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C. The Goodness of God's Joy

Is. 49:13 Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

1 Pet. 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Pet. 1:6-7 **In this you rejoice**, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

II. God is Faithful

Is. 49:14 But Zion said, 'The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me!'

Is. 49:15 Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

Eph. 1:4 even as **he chose us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

Is. 49:16 Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

Ex. 13:8-9 You shall tell your son on that day, 'It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.' And it shall be to you as a sign on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that the law of the Lord may be in your mouth. For with a strong hand the Lord has brought you out of Egypt.

Is. 49:16 Behold, **I have engraved you on the palms of my hands**; your walls are continually before me.

John 20:19-20 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, **he showed them his hands and his side**. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

III. God Can Be Trusted

Is. 49:17-18 Your builders (sons) make haste; your destroyers and those who laid you waste go out from you. Lift up your eyes around and see; they all gather, they come to you. As I live, declares the Lord, you shall put them all on as an ornament; you shall bind them on as a bride does.

Isa. 49:22 Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I will lift up my hand to the nations, and raise my signal to the peoples; and they shall bring your sons in their arms, and your daughters shall be carried on their shoulders.

Population of Israel: ¹

1900 г.	56,000
1948 г.	807,000
1949 г.	1,174,000.
1990 г.	4,822,000.
2000 г.	6,289,000.
2025 г.	10,148,000.

Total Jews worldwide **15,800,000**

Is. 49:24-25 Can the prey be taken from the mighty, or the captives of a tyrant be rescued? For thus says the Lord: 'Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken, and the prey of the tyrant be rescued, for I will contend with those who contend with you, and I will save your children.'

Is. 49:23 ... then you will know that I am the Lord; those who wait for me shall not be put to shame.

Is. 49:26 ... and all flesh shall know that I am the Lord your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

¹ Jewish virtual history