



Standing Strong In The Storms of Life Don't Build Your Own Fires

Isaiah 50:10-11

Isaiah 49:14

But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me, and the Lord has forgotten me."

Isaiah 50:1

Thus says the Lord, "Where is the certificate of divorce by which I have sent your mother away?"

Jeremiah 3:8

And I saw that for all the adulteries of faithless Israel, I had sent her away and given her a writ of divorce, yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear; but she went and was a harlot also.

Isaiah 50:1-3

1. Behold, you were sold for your iniquities, and for your transgressions your mother was sent away.
2. Why was there no man when I came? When I called, why was there none to answer? Is My hand so short that it cannot ransom? Or have I no power to deliver? Behold, I dry up the sea with My rebuke, I make the rivers a wilderness; their fish stink for lack of water and die of thirst.
3. I clothe the heavens with blackness and make sackcloth their covering.

The bottom line is that the root behind all sin and self is unbelief.

Isaiah 50:4-9

4. The Lord God has given Me the tongue of disciples, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple.
5. The Lord God has opened My ear; and I was not disobedient nor did I turn back.
6. I gave My back to those who strike Me, and My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; I did not cover My face from humiliation and spitting.
7. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
8. he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.
9. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Contrasting responses to the darkness

A. The Response of Faith

Isaiah 50:10

Who among you **fears** the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant, who walks in darkness and has no light, yet trusts in the name of the Lord and relies upon his God?

- reverences God

Faith is the light that offsets darkness.

Psalms 139:11-12

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," even the darkness is not to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Psalms 119:105

Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light to my path.

Psalms 119:130

The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.

Contrasting responses to the darkness

B. The Reaction of Self

Isaiah 50:11

But all of you are kindlers of fire, lighters of firebrands. Walk in the flame of your fire, and among the brands that you have kindled! This is what you shall have from my hand: you will lie down in torment.

There is no spiritual light to those who are going to do things their own way.

Dark times are a pop test to allow us to see where we really are in our walk with Christ.

Proverbs 16:25

Sometimes there is a way that seems to be right, but in the end it is the way to death.



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