

**Real Reality  
Notes For the Remnant on the Coming of Messiah  
Isaiah 52:1 – 12**

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The first call to action was from the remnant to YAHWEH (Isaiah 51:9). They were ready for His salvation to take place and to do so right now.

The second call to action was from YAHWEH to the remnant in Jerusalem (Isaiah 51:17). The call comes at the end of the age, and it is telling the believing remnant in Jerusalem that judgement is completed.

Now we come to a third call to action, a third call to wake up. But thanks to the completion of judgement, this is a call to wake up, the thing you were praying for is taking place, get moving.

Isaiah 52:1–6

“Awake, awake, Clothe yourself in your strength, Zion; Clothe yourself with your beautiful garments, Jerusalem, the holy city; For the uncircumcised and the unclean Will no longer come into you. Shake yourself from the dust, rise up, Captive Jerusalem; Release yourself from the chains around your neck, Captive daughter of Zion. For this is what the LORD says: “You were sold for nothing, and you will be redeemed without money.” For this is what the Lord GOD says: “My people went down to Egypt first to reside there; then the Assyrian oppressed them without reason. And now, what do I have here,” declares the LORD, “seeing that My people have been taken away without reason?” Again the LORD declares, “Those who rule over them howl, and My name is continually reviled all day long. Therefore, My people shall know My name; therefore on that day I am the one who is speaking, ‘Here I am.’ ” (NASB 2020)

The remnant has been praying, it is fulfilled right in front of them. Action is now required.

The calling is very specific and points to something that all of us, even today, must deal with. As a believer in Jesus Christ, there is much that Christ has done for us and there is much He has given to us. Most of which we must simply believe and then appropriate for ourselves in faith. The remnant will also have to do the same.

For the remnant, the ones who were asking YAHWEH to act and do so soon. Some of the reason they prayed that way reflects the culture.

The false gods, especially Baal, had to be awakened from slumber and then become motivated for action through offerings or actions of the worshippers. The false gods were lazy and self-centered.

We know this from the actions taken by the priests of Baal in their contest with Elijah recorded in 1 Kings 18:17 – 46.

Here in Isaiah 52, the Lord is talking, and He is telling those of the remnant who live in Jerusalem it is time to act. In Isaiah 51, we saw that even the remnant is blaming God, to a degree, for the circumstances they find themselves in. Therefore, He made comments about their memory, leadership, and overall faithfulness.

Yes, there is a believing remnant, but there is also responsibility for the remnant as well. They had been unable to stop or deal with the unbelief that resulted in the judgement also discussed in Isaiah 51. Thus, the conditions of the city are as described in Isaiah 51:19 & 20.

Isaiah 51:19–20 “These two things have happened to you; Who will mourn for you? The devastation and destruction, famine and sword; How shall I comfort you? Your sons have fainted, They lie helpless at the head of every street, Like an antelope in a net, Full of the wrath of the LORD, The rebuke of your God.” (NASB 2020)

The conditions made them feel helpless.

Here in verse one, the prayer of the remnant is answered. “If Zion is to be restored to her God, then she must move from blaming him for her separation from him, and from believing that the situation is hopeless, to the kind of joyous faith and anticipation that will allow his power to be unleashed. While she has no strength to deliver herself, she does have strength to lay hold of God’s promises and must exercise that strength if deliverance is to be realized. This is a principle of divine-human relations that is the same in all circumstances.” (Oswalt 1998, 360)

When we pray, we pray believing that God will indeed answer our prayers. Some of those prayers though also require us to do something as well, in faith, knowing that the answer is coming.

For example, we pray that the Lord would help us meet an extraordinary expense that has popped up. After praying that, then what do we do? Sit back and wait for the answer or do we act?

He does promise to meet our needs.

So, the first step is to ask in faith and remember what He says, as in James 1.

James 1:5–8

“If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. **But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind.** Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.” (NLT)

After asking, do not waiver, trust. Also, do not worry about the situation. This is what the folks were doing in Judah and is a strong temptation for all of us as we wait on the Lord.

Matthew 6:31–34

“**So do not start worrying:** ‘Where will my food come from? or my drink? or my clothes?’ (These are the things the pagans are always concerned about.) Your Father in heaven knows that you need all these

things. Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things. So do not worry about tomorrow; it will have enough worries of its own. There is no need to add to the troubles each day brings.” (GNB)

He is the God of more than enough (Matthew 6:43), He promises to meet our needs and He also promises to answer prayer. But there is a condition.

James 4:3

“you ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, so you can spend it on your passions.” (NET)

There are lots of things I have prayed for with the totally wrong motivation behind it. I would tell the Lord it would be for His glory, but He knew that it was for my glory, not His.

There are things we can pray for that we know that we are totally in God’s will to ask for it, such as the salvation of loved ones and the opportunity to share our faith with them and others. To be baptized with/enabled with/empowered with the Holy Spirit. That one He specifically tells us He will answer.

Luke 11:9–13

“And so I say to you: ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For all those who ask will receive, and those who seek will find, and the door will be opened to anyone who knocks. Would any of you who are fathers give your son a snake when he asks for fish? Or would you give him a scorpion when he asks for an egg? Bad as you are, you know how to give good things to your children. How much more, then, will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (GNB)

Back to the example. Is there anything you can do to enhance your ability for income? Can I offer to work extra hours? Is there a part time job I can get to help?

Because of the known promises that have been made to us as believers in Jesus Christ, knowing that our Father loves us, that He promises to meet our needs and that He hears us, this means we can step out in faith and start doing, based on the knowledge that He will do as He promises. If God chooses to use a part-time job for the need, He will make a way. Doing nothing though is not an option, unless the Lord specifically reveals that is the course to take.

This is where the remnant is, the prayer is answered, now pick up and do. Lay ahold of the promises of God and take affirmative action based on those promises. Make the vision that God has for the situation, our vision. This requires daring and courage. Courage like Joshua needed. Doing nothing is not an option.

Joshua was told he would take the nation into the land and would conquer and defeat everyone who came against him.

Joshua 1:2–8

“Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. **No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life.** Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. **I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous,** for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, **being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.** This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” (ESV)

Joshua had to believe by faith what the Lord told him, then he had to act based on that faith and move forward. Doing nothing was not an option, he had a role to perform in the deal, just as we do.

There is no way in his own power that Joshua could take the land and kick out all the unbelievers who were in it. Unlike the nation 40 years earlier who blamed God for getting them into the situation and then believed that the situation was completely hopeless, why even try; Joshua had to lead the nation into an experience of joyous faith. This is the faith that absolutely knows God will keep His promises and we wake up each day excited to see just how He is going to do that today.

### Joyous Faith

- The faith to know that you know God will keep all His promises.
- He will absolutely answer your prayer.
- Every day is exciting! It is another day to see just exactly how the Lord is going to work today to achieve what it is He has promised He would do.

James 2:18–26

“But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.” (ESV)

The remnant must act. “Awake, awake, Clothe yourself in your strength, Zion; Clothe yourself with your beautiful garments, Jerusalem, the holy city; For the uncircumcised and the unclean Will no longer come into you.” (Isaiah 52:1, NASB 2020)

For us today, in our flesh, doing the Great Commission is simply not going to happen.

Matthew 28:18–20

“Then Jesus came up and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore **go and make** disciples of all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **teaching** them to obey everything I have commanded you. And **remember**, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”” (NET)

### Marching Orders from the King

We must act:

- Go
- Make
- Baptize
- Teach
- Remember
- See the vision Jesus Christ has for the nations and make it ours

The similarity with what God is telling His people here in Isaiah 52 is more than coincidental. It is deliberate.

For the remnant, they must act as well, the prayer is answered:

- Stop worrying and wake up
- YAHWEH has restored Zion
- Zion is restored, act like it
- Zion is restored, build in it
- Zion is restored, God lives there, be Holy because now the city is Holy
- See the vision YAHWEH has for the city and make it ours

That level of holiness is a new concept. The Holy of Holies is all of Jerusalem, not simply a room in the Temple. This is because YAHWEH is in the Temple (Ezekiel 43).

The prophet introduces a revolutionary theological innovation in this chapter: The holy area, which until this time was restricted to the Temple itself, is now expanded to include the entire city. Jerusalem becomes a temple city, and thus strict guidelines to insure its holiness must be introduced; (Paul 2012, 383)

Actions that must be taken by the remnant and must be taken by us as well. The next verse provides instructions on the how to side of the equation.

Isaiah 52:2

“Shake yourself from the dust, rise up, Captive Jerusalem; Release yourself from the chains around your neck, Captive daughter of Zion.” (NASB 2020)

God has answered the prayer of the remnant. Messiah has delivered His people saving them from the Beast and the Beast’s armies ending the intended genocide. He has saved them from their sin through His own sacrifice on the cross and the remnant has been filled with the Holy Spirit. Verse 2 provides the actions that are required. Exercise your free will and now live like this has all happened before because it has.

The remnant has been delivered. They are not told to just get up, but to shake the dust off as this is not going to happen again “for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.” (1 Corinthians 6:20, ESV)

Captive Jerusalem is captive no longer. YAHWEH has delivered the people. “And I will put this third into the fire, and refine them as one refines silver, and test them as gold is tested. They will call upon my name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘They are my people’; and they will say, ‘The LORD is my God.’ ” (Zechariah 13:9, ESV)

The shock that comes with no longer being captives, no longer being slaves, no longer being told what to do, where to go and how to do it, is over. Now comes the hard part, doing the volitional activities associated with being free. They are being brought back into the family. “Jesus answered them, “Truly, I tell all of you emphatically, that everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. The slave does not remain in the household forever, but the son does remain forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed!”” (John 8:34–36, ISV)

The Lord is talking to a remnant that has undergone physical, spiritual and emotional trauma. They must be told they are free and are no longer slaves. The chains, the things that bound them, have to be removed by each person personally. The same goes for us.

Jesus sets us free, and we are truly set free by His achievement on the cross and His resurrection. We are no longer slaves of sin but are made free from sin. The Holy Spirit enters us at the moment of salvation and then begins the process of sanctifying us, making us more like Jesus. We have the choice of participating in that activity and growing in Christ or remaining stationary and not growing.

He has broken the chains that bound us. Those chains could be certain behaviors or sins which we relied upon in the past and now we are free to no longer participate in them. The Holy Spirit will actively point these out to us, and we have the choice to “remove” them.

We cannot break the chains that bind us; only God can do that. But when the chains are broken, we must remove them, and only we can do that. This is a critical moment in any recovery: the moment when we cease thinking of ourselves as a captive, that is, as a victim, a helpless chip in the current, and begin to realize that God has placed an opportunity before us that we may seize, if we will. (Oswalt 1998, 361)

Here in verse 2, the remnant it at that decision point. Jesus has returned and set them free. They are all now filled with the Holy Spirit, it is time to stop living as slaves and captives and start living as free men and women. After 3 ½ years of the Great Tribulation, that will be difficult, but because of the Holy Spirit and the promises of YAHWEH to His people, possible.

Isaiah 52:3–4

“For this is what the LORD says: “You were sold for nothing, and you will be redeemed without money.” For this is what the Lord GOD says: “My people went down to Egypt first to reside there; then the Assyrian oppressed them without reason.” (NASB 2020)

The Lord continues to talk to His people, the remnant. Yes, they, as part of Israel, were indeed sold in captivity, but it was due to sin. No money changed hands. Technically, the people broke a contract and are suffering as specified in the contract.

Looking at this through the eyes of a people familiar with the concept of the Kinsman Redeemer, they know that to be redeemed that it must be done by a kinsman who has the resources to make the purchase and is willing to do so. They were sold not to pay off any debt so to redeem them does not require cash. Redemption though will take place and a non-cash form of redemption will achieve this. Jesus paid the price with His own blood on the cross.

Examining the word translated “you were sold” we learn something else. The word is נִמְכַרְתֶּם (nimkartem) to be sold...to sell oneself as a slave. (Gesenius and Tregelles 2003, 472)

Yes, we understand they were sold for nothing, but the one doing the selling may have possibly been themselves. This points to the problem with sin and disobedience and the accountability the Lord places onto the each of us for that. The nation having sold themselves is the picture.

Redemption is essentially a price-paying concept, so what does without money (lit. ‘not for money’) mean? Either without cost to you, or by some payment other than money. Someone else will pay—and the price will not be silver (1 Pet. 1:18–19). (Motyer 1999, 371)

As part of this discussion, YAHWEH brings up a couple of examples to show that He has done this in the past, He has the wherewithal in the future to do the same.

Isaiah 52:4

“For this is what the Lord GOD says: “My people went down to Egypt first to reside there; then the Assyrian oppressed them without reason.”” (NASB 2020)

Case in point, when the nation went to Egypt initially, it was at the invitation of Pharaoh. As next of kin, the Kinsman Redeemer is now pointing out how He redeemed His people. They went as guests, as sojourners.

Israel entered Egypt at a time of distress by Pharaoh’s invitation (Gn. 45:16ff.), and there was no call for events to take the turn they did. When, however, the laws of hospitality were violated and Israel was helpless before a threat of genocide, the divine Next-of-kin came (Ex. 3:7–8) to redeem (Ex. 6:6). (J. A. Motyer 1996, 418)

Then there are the events that Isaiah and others were witnesses to involving the Assyrian empire. The Northern Kingdom abrogated the covenant and went into exile as a result.

Also, because of the same problem showing up in Judah, the Assyrian's also took many in Judah away as well only being stopped by YAHWEH personally. "When did the Assyrians oppress Jerusalem and gain nothing? The Assyrians fought valiantly and defeated many fortified cities around 701 BC, but in the end they were defeated when the angel of God killed 185,000 troops in one night (37:36). Thus all their effort was wasted for they gained nothing." (Smith 2009, 420)

Isaiah 52:5–6

"And now, what do I have here," declares the LORD, "seeing that My people have been taken away without reason?" Again the LORD declares, "Those who rule over them howl, and My name is continually reviled all day long. Therefore, My people shall know My name; therefore on that day I am the one who is speaking, 'Here I am.' " (NASB 2020)

There is disagreement regarding Isaiah 52:5. Some commentators believe this is a reference to the coming experiences that will take place with Babylon. But there is no reference to Babylon here. WE know the audience listening is the remnant in Jerusalem.

We also know that in the future, once redemption has taken place, the population of Jerusalem will soar and be crowded (Isaiah 49:19-20). It makes more sense then to look at verse 5 as a follow-on statement. "God's people were taken for nothing; God's people still belong to him. Therefore, they are free to follow the positive exhortations given in 52:1–2." (Smith 2009, 421)

Because the people are freed by the Lord and have been redeemed by Him, there is a reaction from the oppressors.

Isaiah 52:5b

Again the LORD declares, "Those who rule over them howl, and My name is continually reviled all day long." (NASB 2020)

The foreign rulers will mock God, blaspheme His name, and boast in their own abilities. Historically that has been seen with the Assyrian leadership (Isaiah 36 & 37). But the point is this, God has control and power over all leaders of the world to include those who are too big for their britches.

This statement looks back, but it also looks forward as this is addressed to the remnant, to include those in Jerusalem at the end of the Tribulation.

Revelation 13:3–6

"One of the beast's heads appeared to have been killed, but the lethal wound had been healed. And the whole world followed the beast in amazement; they worshiped the dragon because he had given ruling authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast too, saying: "Who is like the beast?" and "Who is able to make war against him?" The beast was given a mouth speaking proud words and blasphemies, and he was permitted to exercise ruling authority for forty-two months. So the beast opened his mouth to blaspheme against God—to blaspheme both his name and his dwelling place, that is, those who dwell in heaven." (NET)

Isaiah 52:6

"Therefore, My people shall know My name; therefore on that day I am the one who is speaking, 'Here I am.' "" (NASB 2020)

On that day, the day His people, "Israel, which was once oppressed and exploited by foreigners, will find in a purified city the environment in which to come to know its God. Holy city and divine name are indissolubly joined, and this unimpaired unity is constitutive of the new eschatological order about to be realized. (Childs 2001, 405-406)

There will be no doubt about who it is that rescues His people. The exhibition of power that takes place with the coming of Messiah will remove all doubt.

Isaiah 52:7

“How delightful on the mountains Are the feet of one who brings good news, Who announces peace And brings good news of happiness, Who announces salvation, And says to Zion, “Your God reigns!”” (NASB 2020)

We begin verse 7 with a reference to how news from the battlefield comes into the city. Sandal net was alive and well in 700BC. There were extensive messenger networks in existence at the time.

Messengers were assigned to combat units in the field in order to take messages back and forth to various units as well as to announce the results to the folks back home. There were also messenger routes between all the cities in Judah.

For combat messengers, if things went well, all you would see is the messenger and no one else. If things didn't go well, you would see the messenger perhaps along with some of the troops and swarms of refugees.

It is also possible that a messenger bringing an interim report could be passed in route by one bringing a final battle report.

We have an example of this in 2 Samuel when David was waiting for word of the battle taking place elsewhere involving Absalom and those troops loyal to David.

2 Kingdoms (Samuel) 18:24–27

“And David was sitting between the two gates and the watchman went to the roof of the gate to the wall and he raised his eyes and saw, and look, there was a man running alone before him. And the watchman shouted and reported to the king and the king said, “If he is alone, there is good news in his mouth.” And he continued to travel, coming and approaching. And the watchman saw another man running and the watchman called to the gate and said, “Look, another man is running alone and the king said, “And indeed, this is someone who has good news.” And the watchman said, “I see the gait of the first is like the gait of Ahimaaz, son of Zadok.” And the king said, “He is a good man and indeed he will come with good news.”” (Lexham Press 2020, 2 Kingdoms 18:24-27)

The first messenger indeed brought good news of victory, the second brought the news of victory as well as what had happened to David's son, Absalom.

How beautiful they would reckon the sight of a lone runner—not a straggle of fugitives betokening defeat, but one messenger with a spring in his step! As he comes within earshot he shouts: peace, good tidings, salvation, Your God reigns. (J. A. Motyer 1996, 419)

The picture being drawn for us here is at the end of the Tribulation. Jesus Christ has physically returned and rescued His people as the avenger of blood. He is bringing the message, personally.

Zechariah provides us the blow-by-blow picture of this verse being fulfilled.

Zechariah 14:3–9

“Then the **LORD will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle**. On that day **his feet** shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward. And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him. On that day there shall be no light, cold, or frost. And there shall be a unique day, which is known to the LORD,



neither day nor night, but at evening time there shall be light. On that day **living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem**, half of them to the eastern sea and half of them to the western sea. It shall continue in summer as in winter. And **the LORD will be king over all the earth**. On that day the LORD will be one and his name one.” (ESV)

Contextually, however, we are moving in the theological and spiritual area of wrath removed from the Lord’s people (51:17), their new status as kings and priests before him (52:1–2), the great redemption without money (3) and the revelation of the Lord in word and person (6). Whatever the act he has performed (and we still do not know what it is), this is what has been accomplished, and it is presented dramatically in the runner with his shout of victory. Your God reigns echoes the familiar cultic cry of Psalms 93:1; 97:1; 99:1. In those days they sang the words (as Christians sing Ascension Day hymns) in praise of a kingship acknowledged by faith. But Isaiah envisages a day when faith will pass into sight and the Victor himself will be seen face to face. (J. A. Motyer 1996, 419-420)

Feet are ordinary and normally not beautiful. But the glorious news arrives with the touching of a foot onto the Mount of Olives. Jesus Christ is the connected to that foot. He is bringing the good news. He is the one who announces peace. He is the one with the “gospel” (good news) and announces salvation. He is the one informing Jerusalem, Your God reigns!

What does God’s rule entail? It entails a condition where all things are in their proper relation to each other, with nothing left hanging, incomplete, or unfulfilled (peace, *šālôm*); it entails a condition where creation purposes are realized (good, *ṭôb*; cf. Gen. 1:4, 10, etc.); it entails a condition of freedom from every bondage, but particularly the bondage resultant from sin (salvation, *yešû`â*). Where God reigns, these follow. Of course, this is exactly congruent with what the Christian faith considers its good news (euangelion) to be. This is the content that Christ instructed his disciples to preach from village to village (Matt. 10:1–7): that which Isa. 52:7–10 had spoken of was now present and at hand. (Oswalt 1998, 368)

Isaiah 52:8

“Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, They shout joyfully together; For they will see with their own eyes When the LORD restores Zion.” (NASB 2020)

Those who are standing watch, participating in the Battle of Armageddon as it takes place around the city of Jerusalem, will be eyewitnesses to the arrival of the King. They will see Messiah and their eyes will meet His. No longer are they providing coordinates for the next artillery round or mortar round to be placed, now they are shouting, in unison, as Jesus arrives finishing off the armies of the beast. Radio traffic will stop to listen in to the praise coming from the spotters in the hills surrounding Jerusalem. Their report is graphic.

Zechariah 14:12–15

“This will be the plague with which the LORD inflicts all of the people who have attacked Jerusalem: he will cause their flesh to rot away, even while they’re standing on their feet. He will cause their eyes to rot away in their sockets, and their tongues to rot away in their mouths. At that time, they will be stricken with a terrible panic from the LORD. Everyone will attack each other. Judah, too, will fight at Jerusalem. Then the wealth of the surrounding nations will be gathered up: gold, silver, and clothing in great abundance. A similar plague will also strike horses, mules, camels, donkeys, and all of the animals in those camps.” (ISV)

Those spotters in and around Jerusalem will provide the blow-by-blow report of the salvation being brought by Messiah on their behalf. Those forward observers in and near the camps of the enemy will also be providing similar reports. Video streams from combat observation equipment provides the graphic confirmation that our God reigns.

Zechariah 12:7–9

“The LORD will give victory to the rest of Judah first, before Jerusalem, so that the people of Jerusalem and the royal line of David will not have greater honor than the rest of Judah. On that day the LORD will

defend the people of Jerusalem; the weakest among them will be as mighty as King David! And the royal descendants will be like God, like the angel of the LORD who goes before them! For on that day I will begin to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.” (NLT)

Isaiah 52:9–10

“Be cheerful, shout joyfully together, You ruins of Jerusalem; For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared His holy arm In the sight of all the nations, So that all the ends of the earth may see The salvation of our God.” (NASB 2020)

Jerusalem is in ruins; we know that from verse 1. The reason for the remnant to awake and rebuild is in the truth of what has just taken place on the hills of Jerusalem. The nightmare of the Great Tribulation is over, but much more than that, the nightmare caused by the unbelief of the nation which began over 2700 years ago, has come to an end.

His people have asked for Messiah to save them (Zechariah 13:9) and He has come to do so. Jesus said He would not return until the nation as one said “See, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ” (Matthew 23:38–39, ESV)

Jerusalem is a ruin. But Jesus has returned. As the message of the spotters is absorbed by those in Jerusalem, there comes the realization that He has saved them. Praise begins to come forth from the ruins of Jerusalem. Those who were in hiding are coming out praising the Lord along with the observers and spotters.

The reason for the praise... “For the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem.” Jesus returns as the avenger of blood redeeming His people. The way He does it not invisible, the entire world will see it. “The LORD has bared His holy arm In the sight of all the nations, So that all the ends of the earth may see The salvation of our God.” (Isaiah 52:10, NASB 2020)

This is a technology statement that up until just the past few years, would not have been possible. The Lord has indeed bared His arm (Zechariah 14:12 – 14) and it will be in front of the planet via the internet. Everyone will see the images of His arrival, His armies, and His judgement.

Isaiah 52:11–12

“Depart, depart, go out from there, Do not touch what is unclean; Go out of the midst of her, purify yourselves, You who carry the vessels of the LORD. But you will not go out in a hurry, Nor will you go as fugitives; For the LORD will go before you, And the God of Israel will be your rear guard.” (NASB 2020)

Here we are, at the end of the Tribulation. Jesus Christ has rescued His people and defeated the armies of the world in view of the entire planet via technology which we are using every day. Just as in the first Exodus, and in the escape from Babylon, the message to those preparing to return to the land is familiar.

The righteous remnant is encouraged to leave wherever they are and to return to the land. Those who have been part of the diaspora have been away from the land for a long time, it is time to purify themselves and return home. Ezekiel draws a picture of this for us.

Ezekiel 36:22–32

“On account of this, say to the house of Israel, ‘This is what the Lord says: “I shall act not for you, O house of Israel, but rather on account of my holy name, which you profaned among the nations where you went there. And I shall sanctify my great name which was profaned among the nations which you profaned in the middle of them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, when I am sanctified by before their eyes. And I shall take you from the nations and gather you from all the lands, and I will lead you into your land. And I shall sprinkle clean water upon you, and you will be cleansed from all your impurities and from all your idols, and I will cleanse you. And I shall give you a new heart and establish a new spirit in you and remove the heart made of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I

shall establish my spirit in you, and I shall work so that you walk in my duties and keep my judgments and do them. And you will dwell upon the land which I gave to your fathers, and you will be my people, and I will be your God. And I shall save you from all your impurities, and I shall summon the grain and multiply it and I shall not give hunger upon you, and I will multiply the tree's fruit and the field's produce, so that you do not receive the reproach of famine among the nations. And you will remember your evil ways and your practices which are not good, and you will be angry before their face because of your transgressions and because of their abominations. I will act not on account of you," says the lord, the Lord. "It is known to you; be ashamed and turn from your ways, O house of Israel." (Lexham Press 2020, Ezekiel 36:22-32)

As they return, it will not be rushed, and it will not be because they have been kicked out of a country. It will be because the Lord is calling them to come home. They have seen what He has done, and they know He now dwells in the land with His people. The Lord will clear the way for them to return and He has their back.

The move will be one that is clean. There will be nothing holding their allegiance where they are leaving from. The King will rule and reign from Jerusalem, that will be the place to be for all Jews left live at the end of the Tribulation.

We read this and think that this is something that is far off in the future, the reality is we could be talking about events taking place in the next decade. There is nothing that hinders the next event on the prophetic calendar, the rapture of the Church. When the last person comes to Christ accepting His offer of forgiveness, then we go home.

You can still make reservations.

Romans 10:8–10

"But what does it say? "The message is near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart." This is the message about faith that we are proclaiming: If you declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with his heart and is justified, and declares with his mouth and is saved." (ISV)

His light, His salvation is indeed near and available to all who accept it.

### Salvation is a Gift

- Admit you are a sinner.
- Believe in your heart that Jesus died for your sins, was buried and He rose from the dead three days later.
- Call on the name of the Lord.

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