

## Finding Hope in the Confidence of God's Promises

Text: Isaiah 51:1-16

Date: 10-30-22 10:30 AM

### I. Jehovah encourages the remnant to stay the course and patiently wait for the fulfillment of His promises (Isa. 51:1-11).

The remnant is described as those *that follow after righteousness* and they that *seek the Lord*.

“This implies an active, vigorous seeking after righteousness, a hungering and thirsting thereafter, which results in action” (Young 306-7).

God encourages the remnant with the truth that His power overcame both doubt and impossibility. When Sarah laughed, God fulfilled His word. When Abraham was faced with killing his one and only son, God fulfilled His word. Now when the nation appeared doomed and set-aside, God would fulfill His word.

God will comfort the nation. He will change their land. He will give joy and gladness.

All the promises of righteousness and salvation are bound in Jesus Christ.

In contrast to the temporal nature of God's creation, Jehovah's salvation and righteousness will last forever and never be shattered or dismayed (*word abolished means to be made downhearted*).

**Be encouraged!** Do not fear the scorn or mockery of men.

Remind yourself of “the rock whence ye were hewn, and the hole of the pit whence ye were digged (vs. 1b)” and find your true hope and security in the righteous arm of Jehovah (v. 5b, 9a).

Just as God, by His arm, has delivered His people in the past, so it is a guarantee that He will do the same in the future.

### II. Jehovah defends the remnant, leaving no reason to live in continual fear of man (Isa. 51:12-16).

Using the double / as emphasis, God reassures His people that it is He and only He that will bring any lasting comfort.

With God as their Comforter, there is no need to fear.

All this would happen based on who the Lord was: Jehovah, Eternal and Covenant-Keeper, Creator, Protector, Omnipotent, and Promise-Keeping God!

“God's name, which is the basis for all the coming action, is the *Lord of hosts*. If all hosts are the Lord's, [then] no mortal enemy can possibly keep His people in bondage” (Young 317).