

In Search of The Servant of God

(Part 3- Isaiah 50:4-11)

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Introduction: Where does the Servant of God find His awesome strength?

- A. The great task that God gave His Servant seemed impossible.
 - 1. The Servant was to bring back and reunite Israel. **(Isa 49:5)**
 - 2. He would unite Jew and Gentile! **(Isa 49:6)**
 - 3. The first seemed utterly impossible. This verse tells us that is nothing compared to what God will do through His servant!
- B. In this Servant song we find the true source of power of the Messiah.
 - 1. Jesus only does that which the Father does. **(Jn 5:19)**
 - 2. Jesus will do greater works as the Father wills. **(Jn 5:20-21)**
 - 3. The power to raise the dead and give life is given to the Son. **(Jn 5:26-30)**

I. The power of the Servant begins with His ear (Isa 50:4-5)

- A. His tongue indeed was powerful. **(Rev 1:16)**
 - 1. He awed those who studied greatly. **(Mt 13:54; Lk 2:46-47)**
 - 2. He knew how to preserve those who were weak. **(Isa 42:2-3)**
 - a. Powerful men tend to crush or dismiss the weak.
 - b. Learned men may not know *how* to speak.
 - c. Our Lord wants us to know His power and wisdom awaits us!
(Mt 11:28-29)
 - d. Is this how we use our tongues?
- B. His tongue was guided by His ear.
 - 1. The Servant's heart was opened to God. He really trusted God!
 - 2. It is a very risky thing to completely open your heart (ear) to another.
 - 3. If we would just truly listen then look at the power available to us.
(Psa 119:99; 1 Thess 2:13)
- C. Are you teachable?
 - 1. Are you willing to hear? **(Mt 13:9, 14-15)**
 - a. This simple truth is ignored by many! **(Prov 18:13; Acts 23:35)**
 - b. This is Satan's first weapon in defeating the gospel. **(Acts 17:5)**
 - 2. Do you have a commitment to principle?
 - a. Some make sincerity an end within itself. It is not. **(Acts 23:1)**
 - b. Far too many "stand" where they do as a result of **weighing consequences** rather than **weighing the truth**.
 - 3. Are you maintaining that commitment?
 - a. The worst listeners I have faced are Christians with great knowledge.
 - b. Do you teach others? Are you teachable? **(Rom 2:21-24)**

II. The Servant had a mission in which He would never be ashamed. (Isa 50:6-7)

- A. The mission God gave Him placed Him in harms way.
 - 1. He was scourged.
 - 2. He was slapped, had his hair pulled out and was spit upon. **(Mt 26:67)**
 - 3. He was placed in a terrible position of shame.

- B. He was not in any way ashamed but determined.
 - 1. He had a face like flint. (**Ezek 3:8-9**)
 - 2. How many have tried to make you ashamed of what is right?
 - 3. Can you see what the disciples saw? (**Lk 9:51-53; Jn 11:16**)
 - 4. For what purpose has God placed *you* here on this earth?
- C. His strength came in knowing God was with Him. (**Psa 22:3-5, 10-11**)
 - 1. There is great power in knowing you are living the will of God.
 - 2. Unbelievers will see this and ask questions. (**1 Pt 2:11-12; 4:15-16**)
- D. Do not be ashamed of good things.
 - 1. The gospel. (**Rom 1:16**)
 - 2. Faithful Christians. (**2 Tim 1:8**)
 - 3. Of Christ and His will. (**Luke 9:26**)

III. The Servant's opponents will never be feared. (Isa 50:8-9)

- A. The Servant knows that God is near.
 - 1. Listen to another promise to the Messiah. (**Psa 34:18-22**)
 - 2. Do you have this kind of assurance? Do you sing the song: "Be with me Lord?" (**1 Pt 3:12-16**)
- B. Three simple, obvious questions.
 - 1. Who will contend with Me?
 - 2. Who *is* My adversary?
 - 3. Who *is* he *who* will condemn Me?
 - 4. How does a human opponent stack up to God as an ally? (**Rom 8:31-39**)
- C. Remember that Jesus faced these temptations and oppositions as a man.
 - 1. He too had to choose to build His relationship with God.
 - 2. It was that relationship that carried Him through adversity! (**Heb 5:7-9**)

IV. Piercing questions for every man (Isa 50:10-11)

- A. Three questions:
 - 1. Who among you fears the LORD?
 - 2. Who obeys the voice of His Servant?
 - 3. Who walks in darkness and has no light?
- B. If you can be absolutely honest with yourself then this Servant will help you.
 - 1. The fear of the Lord can open your heart (ear) to another path. (**Prov 1:7**)
 - 2. Obeying His voice will allow you to walk in wisdom and do His great work of building men
 - 3. Sadly many walk in darkness and refuse to admit it. (**Jn 3:19-21**)
- C. The wicked provide their own "light." (**Isa 50:11**)

"In times of darkness and calamity, instead of trusting in God they would confide in their own resources, and endeavor to kindle a light for themselves in which they might walk. But the result would be, that they would find no comfort, and would ultimately under his hand lie down in sorrow."

Conclusion: God will never let you be put to shame if you will trust Him.

(Joel 2:26-27; Rom 9:33; 10:11; 1 Pet 2:6)