

Holding On Just a Little Bit Longer in a Prolonged Waiting Time

Isaiah 52:1-12

¹ Awake, awake, O Zion, clothe yourself with strength. Put on your garments of splendor, O Jerusalem, the holy city. The uncircumcised and defiled will not enter you again. ² Shake off your dust; rise up, sit enthroned, O Jerusalem. Free yourself from the chains on your neck, O captive Daughter of Zion. ³ For this is what the LORD says: "You were sold for nothing, and without money you will be redeemed." ⁴ For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "At first my people went down to Egypt to live; lately, Assyria has oppressed them. ⁵ "And now what do I have here?" declares the LORD. "For my people have been taken away for nothing, and those who rule them mock," declares the LORD. "And all day long my name is constantly blasphemed. ⁶ Therefore my people will know my name; therefore in that day they will know that it is I who foretold it. Yes, it is I." ⁷ How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" ⁸ Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. ⁹ Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The LORD will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God. ¹¹ Depart, depart, go out from there! Touch no unclean thing! Come out from it and be pure, you who carry the vessels of the LORD. ¹² But you will not leave in haste or go in flight; for the LORD will go before you, the God of Israel will be your rear guard.

When God's reputation is at stake, he takes a moment to discuss about it

The motivation

What is it that gets God so concerned for his own reputation that he stirs himself to rise up and act?

1 Samuel 12:22

For the sake of his great name the Lord will not reject his people, because the Lord was pleased to make you his own.

What does this stirred-up God do when he rises up and acts? How does a God whose reputation is at stake in the apparent defeat of his people act?

a.

b.

Finally, God moves to make sure not only his people know his name, but everyone else sees his power too

The current condition of his people

The effects of prolonged defeat or extended waiting

1. H_____ f_____

2. P_____ is d_____

What does God get?

An amended theology

Luke 21:28

When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.