CRAWFORD BIBLE COMMENTARY

BIBLE STUDY

Isaiah Chapter 52 — The Lord’s Salvation Revealed

A Verse-by-Verse Bible Study from the Crawford Standard Bible

Introduction

Isaiah Chapter 52 is one of the great turning points in the Book of Isaiah.

The chapter begins with:

Zion waking.

Jerusalem rising.

Chains falling.

Captivity ending.

Good news arriving.

Watchmen rejoicing.

Ruins singing.

God’s holy arm revealed.

The redeemed departing in purity.

Then the chapter closes by introducing the climactic suffering Servant passage that continues directly into:

Isaiah 53.

The movement is remarkable.

Jerusalem begins:

In dust.

In chains.

Humiliated.

Oppressed.

But God says:

“Awake, awake, Zion!”

And:

“Put on your strength.”

Then:

“Shake off your dust.”

Then:

“Rise up.”

Then:

“Free yourself from the chains on your neck.”

The city that had been:

Humiliated.

Will become:

Restored.

The people who had been:

Captive.

Will become:

Free.

The nation that had suffered:

Blasphemy.

Will again know:

The Lord’s name.

The central announcement of the chapter comes in verse 7:

“Your God reigns!”

That is the good news.

Why can Zion rise?

Because:

God reigns.

Why can prisoners go free?

Because:

God reigns.

Why can Jerusalem sing?

Because:

God reigns.

Why can the nations see salvation?

Because:

God reigns.

Why can the people leave Babylon without panic?

Because:

God goes before them.

And stands:

Behind them.

The Exodus imagery becomes unmistakable.

But this deliverance is not merely:

Another political escape.

Isaiah's vision expands toward:

Worldwide salvation.

Verse 10 says:

> **"All the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God."**

Then the chapter moves unexpectedly from:

The joy of redeemed Zion.

To:

The Servant.

> **"See, My servant will act wisely."**

He will be:

Raised.

Lifted up.

Highly exalted.

But immediately after that exaltation comes:

Disfigurement.

Suffering.

Humiliation.

People are:

Appalled.

Then:

Nations are affected.

Kings become:

Silent.

This prepares directly for Isaiah 53.

The Servant will be:

Exalted.

But His road to exaltation passes through:

Suffering.

The language of verse 15—“sprinkle many nations”—carries priestly and cleansing associations and has been understood in more than one way. The Hebrew verb can evoke:

Sprinkling.

Purification.

Or possibly startling effect in some interpretive traditions.

Within the larger Servant context, cleansing imagery fits naturally, especially as Isaiah 53 will explain the redemptive significance of the Servant’s suffering.

The chapter therefore combines:

Restoration.

Gospel.

Holiness.

Exodus.

Mission.

Servanthood.

Suffering.

Exaltation.

The central truth of Isaiah 52 is:

The Lord calls captive Zion to rise because her redemption is near, declares that His reign is good news to His people and salvation to the ends of the earth, commands the redeemed to leave impurity behind under His protecting presence, and reveals the Servant who will be humiliated beyond recognition yet ultimately exalted and become the means by which the nations encounter God's saving work.

I. "AWAKE, AWAKE, ZION!"

Isaiah 52:1 — Put on Your Strength

> **"Awake, awake, Zion! Put on your strength. Clothe yourself with your beautiful garments, Jerusalem, the holy city. Never again will the uncircumcised and the unclean enter into you."**

Isaiah 51 had said:

> **"Awake, awake, arm of the Lord."**

Now God turns toward:

Zion.

And says:

> **"Awake, awake."**

The Lord has not been:

Sleeping.

His people must:

Rise.

Cross References

Isaiah 51:9

God's people had appealed to the arm of the Lord to awake and act as in former days.

Isaiah 61:10

The restored people rejoice because God clothes them with garments of salvation and righteousness.

Revelation 21:27

Nothing defiled or unclean enters the final holy city, where complete holiness characterizes God’s dwelling.

Spiritual Principle

Restoration requires:

Response.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When God announces freedom, do not continue dressing like a prisoner.

II. PUT ON YOUR STRENGTH

Zion had experienced:

Weakness.

Defeat.

Captivity.

Now:

Strength.

Spiritual Principle

God’s restoration changes:

Posture.

III. BEAUTIFUL GARMENTS

Dust is replaced by:

Beauty.

Shame by:

Honor.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not merely remove prison clothes; He clothes the redeemed for restored identity.

IV. THE HOLY CITY

Jerusalem is called:

Holy.

That means:

Set apart.

Belonging to God.

Spiritual Principle

Restoration includes:

Holiness.

Not merely:

Prosperity.

V. SHAKE OFF THE DUST

Isaiah 52:2 — Rise and Sit Enthroned

> **“Shake off your dust; rise up, Jerusalem. Sit enthroned once more. Free yourself from the chains on your neck, captive Daughter of Zion.”**

Four commands:

Shake.

Rise.

Sit.

Free yourself.

The imagery reverses Isaiah 47.

Babylon had been told:

Come down.

Sit in dust.

Zion is told:

Get up from dust.

Sit enthroned.

Cross References

Isaiah 60:1

Zion is told to arise and shine because God’s glory has come.

Zechariah 2:7

God calls His people to escape from Babylon and return.

Psalm 113:7

God raises the poor from dust and lifts the needy from degradation.

Spiritual Principle

What God humbles in judgment He can:

Restore in grace.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Babylon goes from throne to dust.

Zion goes from dust to restoration.

VI. CHAINS ON THE NECK

Captivity was:

Real.

The chains symbolize:

Bondage.

Oppression.

Humiliation.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption breaks:

Ownership claims.

VII. “YOU WERE SOLD FOR NOTHING”

Isaiah 52:3 — Redeemed Without Money

> **“For this is what the Lord says: ‘You were sold for nothing, and without money you will be redeemed.’”**

Israel’s exile did not result from:

God’s financial debt.

And redemption does not require:

Babylon’s payment.

Cross References

Isaiah 50:1

God had already denied that Israel was sold because He owed some creditor.

1 Peter 1:18

Believers are reminded that redemption is not accomplished through perishable silver or gold.

Isaiah 55:1

God later invites the thirsty to receive freely without money and without price.

Spiritual Principle

God’s redemption cannot be:

Purchased by human wealth.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The price of redemption is not measured in earthly currency.

VIII. REDEMPTION IS GOD’S INITIATIVE

The people cannot:

Buy themselves back.

God acts.

Spiritual Principle

Grace originates with:

The Redeemer.

IX. ISRAEL’S HISTORY OF OPPRESSION

Isaiah 52:4 — Egypt and Assyria

> **“For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: ‘At first My people went down to Egypt to live there; later, the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.’”**

God reviews:

History.

Egypt.

Assyria.

Oppression.

The people have repeatedly known:

Foreign domination.

Cross References

Genesis 46:6

Jacob and his household went down to Egypt with their families and possessions.

Exodus 1:11

Egypt placed oppressive taskmasters over Israel and forced them into hard labor.

Hosea 11:1

God remembers Israel’s early history in Egypt and His loving call that brought His people out.

Spiritual Principle

God knows:

The full history.

Of His people’s suffering.

X. GOD’S NAME IS BLASPHEMED

Isaiah 52:5 — Oppression Dishonors God

> **“Now what do I have here?’ declares the Lord. ‘For My people have been taken away for nothing, and those who rule over them mock,’ declares the Lord. ‘And all day long My name is continually blasphemed.’”**

The oppression is not merely:

Political.

It affects:

God’s reputation.

The nations interpret Israel’s humiliation as:

God’s weakness.

Cross References

Romans 2:24

Paul quotes the prophetic principle that God's name can be blasphemed among the nations because of the unfaithfulness of those who claim to represent Him.

Ezekiel 36:20

Israel's exile among the nations resulted in God's holy name being profaned because outsiders misunderstood the meaning of their condition.

Psalm 44:22

God's people describe suffering endured because of their identity and relationship to Him.

Spiritual Principle

God cares about:

His name.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When God redeems His people, He is not merely changing their circumstances; He is publicly defending His holy name.

XI. "MY PEOPLE WILL KNOW MY NAME"

Isaiah 52:6 — "Yes, It Is I"

> **"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."**

Redemption brings:

Knowledge.

The people will know:

Who God is.

Who spoke.

Who acted.

Who saved.

Cross References

Jeremiah 31:34

In the new covenant promise, God's people know Him personally and deeply.

Exodus 6:7

God promises to take Israel as His people so they will know that He is the Lord who delivers them.

John 8:58

Jesus uses striking divine identity language in declaring His existence before Abraham.

Spiritual Principle

Salvation reveals:

The Savior.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The greatest gift of redemption is not simply freedom from bondage but deeper knowledge of the Redeemer.

XII. BEAUTIFUL FEET BRING GOOD NEWS

Isaiah 52:7 — “Your God Reigns!”

> **“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!’”**

The feet are beautiful because of:

The message carried.

The message includes:

Good news.

Peace.

Salvation.

Kingdom.

Cross References

Romans 10:15

Paul applies Isaiah’s imagery to those who proclaim the good news of the gospel.

Nahum 1:15

A messenger brings good news of peace and deliverance after the fall of an oppressor.

Ephesians 6:15

Believers are to stand ready with the gospel of peace.

Spiritual Principle

The beauty belongs to:

The gospel.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Ordinary feet become beautiful when they carry extraordinary news.

XIII. “YOUR GOD REIGNS”

This may be the theological center of:

The chapter.

Why is salvation possible?

Because:

God reigns.

Spiritual Principle

The gospel is not merely:

God helps.

It is:

God reigns.

XIV. PEACE AND SALVATION BELONG TO THE KINGDOM

Peace is not:

Human optimism.

Salvation is not:

Self-improvement.

Both flow from:

God’s reign.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The good news is good because the true King has not lost His throne.

XV. THE WATCHMEN SHOUT TOGETHER

Isaiah 52:8 — The Lord Returns to Zion

> **“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.”**

Watchmen normally:

Scan.

Warn.

Wait.

Now they:

Sing.

Why?

God’s return.

Cross References

Ezekiel 3:17

The prophet is compared to a watchman responsible to hear God’s word and warn the people.

Isaiah 62:6

Watchmen are posted on Jerusalem’s walls to remain vigilant and prayerful.

Jeremiah 31:6

Watchmen announce the time to return to Zion and worship the Lord.

Spiritual Principle

Waiting becomes:

Celebration.

When God’s promise arrives.

XVI. THEY SEE WITH THEIR OWN EYES

Faith becomes:

Sight.

Promise becomes:

Fulfillment.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The God who asks us to wait can eventually let us watch the answer arrive.

XVII. THE RUINS ARE COMMANDED TO SING

Isaiah 52:9 — Comfort and Redemption

> **“Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem.”**

Notice who sings:

Ruins.

Not merely:

Rebuilt walls.

The ruined place is summoned to:

Praise.

Cross References

Isaiah 44:23

Creation is commanded to rejoice because the Lord has redeemed Jacob.

Isaiah 49:13

Heaven, earth, and mountains rejoice because God comforts His afflicted people.

Luke 1:68

Zechariah blesses God because He has visited and brought redemption to His people.

Spiritual Principle

God can put a song into:

Ruins.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

You do not have to wait until every stone is back in place before praising the God who has announced restoration.

XVIII. COMFORT AND REDEMPTION BELONG TOGETHER

God comforts:

Because He redeems.

Spiritual Principle

Biblical comfort is rooted in:

Divine action.

XIX. THE LORD BARES HIS HOLY ARM

Isaiah 52:10 — Salvation Before All Nations

> **“The Lord will lay bare His holy arm in the sight of all nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.”**

The “arm” symbolizes:

Power.

Action.

Deliverance.

God rolls up His sleeve, as it were:

To act.

Cross References

Isaiah 53:1

The next chapter asks to whom the arm of the Lord has been revealed, linking the Servant directly to God’s saving power.

Luke 3:6

Luke quotes Isaiah’s salvation language, declaring that all flesh will see God’s salvation.

Psalm 98:2

The Lord makes His salvation known and reveals His righteousness before the nations.

Spiritual Principle

God’s salvation is:

Public.

Visible.

Worldwide.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not intend His salvation to remain hidden behind Israel’s walls.

XX. ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Isaiah 49:

Salvation to the ends of earth.

Isaiah 52:

The ends of earth see:

Salvation.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s mission is becoming:

Global fulfillment.

XXI. “DEPART, DEPART”

Isaiah 52:11 — Redemption Requires Purity

> **“Depart, depart, go out from there! Touch no unclean thing! Come out from her and be pure, you who carry the vessels of the Lord.”**

The people must:

Leave.

But not carelessly.

They must leave:

Pure.

Holiness accompanies:

Freedom.

Cross References

2 Corinthians 6:17

Paul calls believers to separate from what is spiritually unclean and live in holiness before God.

Revelation 18:4

God’s people are called to come out of Babylon so they do not share in its sins and judgments.

Jeremiah 51:45

Israel is told to come out of Babylon and escape the judgment falling upon it.

Spiritual Principle

God does not redeem people so they can carry:

Babylon.

With them.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Freedom is incomplete if you leave the prison but keep the prison’s values in your heart.

XXII. HOLINESS MATTERS

Redemption is:

Not merely relocation.

It is:

Consecration.

Spiritual Principle

The redeemed must live:

Differently.

XXIII. THOSE WHO CARRY THE LORD’S VESSELS

The restored temple service lies in:

View.

Those handling holy things must be:

Holy.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Sacred service requires serious attention to sacred character.

XXIV. THIS EXODUS WILL NOT BE PANICKED

Isaiah 52:12 — God Goes Before and Behind

> **“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.”**

The first Exodus included:

Urgency.

This new departure carries:

Security.

God ahead.

God behind.

Cross References

Exodus 14:19

The angel of God and the pillar moved behind Israel to protect them from Egypt.

Exodus 12:11

The original Passover departure involved readiness and haste.

Deuteronomy 9:3

God goes before His people as a consuming fire against their enemies.

Spiritual Principle

God surrounds:

The journey.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

If God is before you and behind you, you do not have to flee as though the outcome depends on your panic.

XXV. THE LORD GOES BEFORE

Leadership.

Spiritual Principle

The Redeemer does not merely:

Send.

He leads.

XXVI. GOD IS THE REAR GUARD

Protection from:

Behind.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God is already where you are going and still guarding what lies behind you.

XXVII. THE EXALTED SERVANT APPEARS

Isaiah 52:13 — Wise, Raised, Lifted, Exalted

> **“See, My servant will act wisely; He will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.”**

The final section of Isaiah 52 begins the Servant song continuing through:

Isaiah 53:12.

The Servant will:

Act wisely.

Prosper in His mission.

Be raised.

Lifted.

Highly exalted.

Cross References

Philippians 2:9

Because Christ humbled Himself in obedience, God highly exalted Him and gave Him the name above every name.

John 12:32

Jesus speaks of being lifted up, language that includes His crucifixion while also pointing toward the saving effect of His death.

Acts 2:33

Peter proclaims Jesus as exalted to the right hand of God after resurrection.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s suffering does not end in:

Defeat.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Before Isaiah shows us how low the Servant will go, he tells us how high God will raise Him.

XXVIII. “HE WILL ACT WISELY”

This includes:

Skill.

Understanding.

Successful fulfillment of mission.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant does not fail:

God’s purpose.

XXIX. RAISED, LIFTED, HIGHLY EXALTED

The language is:

Strong.

Majestic.

In Isaiah, “high and lifted up” language is associated with:

Divine majesty.

This makes the Servant’s exaltation especially striking.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant who descends into humiliation belongs to a glory far greater than His enemies can understand.

XXX. THE SERVANT IS APPALLINGLY DISFIGURED

Isaiah 52:14 — Suffering Beyond Recognition

> **“Just as there were many who were appalled at Him—His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being, and His form marred beyond human likeness—”**

The Servant’s suffering is:

Severe.

Public.

Shocking.

The verse emphasizes:

Disfigurement.

Humiliation.

Physical degradation.

Cross References

Psalm 22:6

The suffering righteous one describes himself as despised, scorned, and treated as less than human.

Matthew 27:28

Jesus was stripped and clothed mockingly by Roman soldiers as part of His humiliation.

Mark 15:17

Jesus was dressed in purple and crowned with thorns in cruel mockery.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s path to exaltation passes through:

Extreme humiliation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not judge the Servant’s glory by the appearance of His suffering.

XXXI. “MANY WERE APPALLED”

People are:

Shocked.

Repulsed.

Stunned.

Spiritual Principle

God’s saving method may look:

Nothing like human expectations.

XXXII. SUFFERING DOES NOT CANCEL EXALTATION

Verse 13:

Exalted.

Verse 14:

Disfigured.

Both:

True.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The cross and the crown are not contradictions in the Servant’s mission.

XXXIII. THE SERVANT WILL SPRINKLE MANY NATIONS

Isaiah 52:15 — Nations and Kings Confronted

> **“So He will sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of Him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.”**

The Servant’s effect is:

International.

Nations.

Kings.

The language “sprinkle” naturally evokes:

Priestly cleansing.

Consecration.

Purification.

The larger context points toward the Servant doing something redemptive for:

Many nations.

Cross References

Romans 15:21

Paul quotes the final words of this verse concerning people seeing and understanding what they had not previously heard, applying it to gospel mission among unreached peoples.

Hebrews 9:13

The Old Testament sacrificial system used sprinkling imagery in ceremonial cleansing, providing important background for the Servant’s priestly associations.

1 Peter 1:2

Peter uses the language of sprinkling in connection with the blood of Jesus Christ and covenant obedience.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s work reaches:

Beyond Israel.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant who was rejected by His own people becomes the cleansing hope of many nations.

XXXIV. KINGS SHUT THEIR MOUTHS

Why?

Astonishment.

Reverence.

Recognition.

They encounter something:

Beyond expectation.

Spiritual Principle

Human rulers eventually become:

Silent.

Before God’s Servant.

XXXV. WHAT THEY WERE NOT TOLD, THEY WILL SEE

The message reaches:

Those previously uninformed.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The gospel has a special urgency toward those who have not yet heard.

XXXVI. WHAT THEY HAD NOT HEARD, THEY UNDERSTAND

Hearing becomes:

Understanding.

Spiritual Principle

God’s revelation penetrates:

Ignorance.

XXXVII. WHAT ISAIAH 52 TEACHES ABOUT ZION

Zion must:

Awake.

Rise.

Dress.

Shake off dust.

Break chains.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s restoring Word calls His people to live according to the freedom He announces.

XXXVIII. WHAT ISAIAH 52 TEACHES ABOUT REDEMPTION

Redemption is:

Free from human purchasing power.

Spiritual Principle

Money cannot buy:

God’s saving work.

XXXIX. WHAT ISAIAH 52 TEACHES ABOUT GOD’S NAME

God’s name had been:

Blasphemed.

His redemption makes His identity:

Known.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s saving work vindicates the honor of His name.

XL. WHAT ISAIAH 52 TEACHES ABOUT THE GOSPEL

Good news includes:

Peace.

Salvation.

God’s reign.

Spiritual Principle

The gospel is:

Kingdom news.

XLI. WHAT ISAIAH 52 TEACHES ABOUT MISSION

Beautiful feet travel.

The ends of earth see.

Nations receive cleansing.

Kings understand.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A gospel that never moves outward has lost touch with Isaiah’s vision.

XLII. WHAT ISAIAH 52 TEACHES ABOUT HOLINESS

> **“Touch no unclean thing.”**

Spiritual Principle

Redemption and holiness belong:

Together.

XLIII. WHAT ISAIAH 52 TEACHES ABOUT GOD’S GUIDANCE

Before:

God.

Behind:

God.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The redeemed journey is guarded at both ends by the presence of God.

XLIV. WHAT ISAIAH 52 TEACHES ABOUT THE SERVANT

He is:

Wise.

Exalted.

Disfigured.

Worldwide in effect.

Spiritual Principle

Suffering and glory belong to:

One mission.

XLV. WHAT ISAIAH 52 TEACHES ABOUT CHRIST

The New Testament naturally connects this section to:

Jesus Christ.

His humiliation.

Crucifixion.

Exaltation.

Worldwide gospel.

Cleansing work.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Isaiah 52:13–15 opens the door directly into the suffering and saving work explained in Isaiah 53.

XLVI. AWAKE, AWAKE

Repeated words emphasize:

Urgency.

Spiritual Principle

There is a time to stop:

Sleeping spiritually.

XLVII. PUT ON STRENGTH

God calls Zion to live out:

Restored identity.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not keep rehearsing weakness after God has announced restoration.

XLVIII. BEAUTIFUL GARMENTS

Grace changes:

Clothing.

Spiritual Principle

Salvation replaces:

Shame.

XLIX. SHAKE OFF DUST

Dust speaks of:

Humiliation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Some seasons require you to stop wearing the dust of what God has already begun to redeem.

L. RISE UP

Grace is:

Active.

Spiritual Principle

God’s command to rise assumes that staying down is no longer the only option.

LI. SIT ENTHRONED

The humiliated city receives:

Dignity.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The God who allowed discipline can restore honor.

LII. FREE YOUR NECK

Chains are:

Not jewelry.

Spiritual Principle

Do not become emotionally attached to symbols of captivity.

LIII. SOLD FOR NOTHING

No legitimate creditor:

Owned them.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Captivity may have been real without becoming ultimate ownership.

LIV. REDEEMED WITHOUT MONEY

The Redeemer provides:

What money cannot.

Spiritual Principle

Grace cannot be:

Purchased.

LV. EGYPT

Past oppression.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God remembers every chapter of His people’s bondage.

LVI. ASSYRIA

Another oppressor.

Spiritual Principle

Empires change.

God remains:

Redeemer.

LVII. GOD’S NAME BLASPHEMED

Israel’s condition created:

Mockery.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s people represent a name larger than their own.

LVIII. “THEY WILL KNOW MY NAME”

Knowledge follows:

Redemption.

Spiritual Principle

Salvation deepens:

Revelation.

LIX. “YES, IT IS I”

No ambiguity.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God wants His people to know who acted when deliverance arrives.

LX. BEAUTIFUL FEET

The messenger matters because:

The message matters.

Spiritual Principle

Gospel proclamation is:

Beautiful work.

LXI. GOOD NEWS

Not:

Advice.

News.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The gospel is first an announcement of what God has done, not a list of what humans must accomplish.

LXII. PEACE PROCLAIMED

Peace follows:

God’s reign.

Spiritual Principle

Biblical peace has a:

King.

LXIII. SALVATION PROCLAIMED

Not:

Possibility alone.

A saving act of:

God.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The messenger does not create salvation; he announces it.

LXIV. “YOUR GOD REIGNS”

The whole chapter can stand under:

This sentence.

Spiritual Principle

God’s sovereignty makes good news:

Possible.

LXV. WATCHMEN REJOICE

Those who spent years:

Watching.

Finally:

See.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Long waiting can end in loud praise.

LXVI. LORD RETURNS TO ZION

Presence is:

Restored.

Spiritual Principle

The greatest restoration is:

God with His people.

LXVII. RUINS SING

A contradiction?

No.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Faith can sing in ruins because it knows the Builder is coming.

LXVIII. COMFORTED PEOPLE

Isaiah 40 began:

Comfort.

Isaiah 52 says:

Comfort accomplished.

Spiritual Principle

God keeps:

His themes.

Across history.

LXIX. HOLY ARM

Power is not:

Morally neutral.

God’s arm is:

Holy.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God never has to become unrighteous in order to become powerful.

LXX. IN SIGHT OF ALL NATIONS

No hidden victory.

Spiritual Principle

God’s salvation has:

Public significance.

LXXI. ENDS OF EARTH SEE

Mission:

Global.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The horizon of redemption is the world.

LXXII. DEPART

Freedom requires:

Leaving.

Spiritual Principle

The open prison door still requires:

Movement.

LXXIII. TOUCH NO UNCLEAN THING

The redeemed must separate from:

Defilement.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not drag Babylon’s idols into Zion’s restoration.

LXXIV. BE PURE

Holiness is not:

Optional decoration.

Spiritual Principle

The holy God calls for:

A holy people.

LXXV. NO HASTE

This departure is:

Ordered.

Secure.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When God controls the exit, panic is unnecessary.

LXXVI. NO FLIGHT

Not running in:

Terror.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption changes:

Posture.

LXXVII. GOD BEFORE

The road ahead is:

Occupied.

By God.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

You never arrive somewhere before God.

LXXVIII. GOD BEHIND

No exposed:

Rear.

Spiritual Principle

God protects against:

Pursuit.

LXXIX. THE SERVANT WILL ACT WISELY

Mission accomplished:

Skillfully.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s Servant is never confused about the purpose entrusted to Him.

LXXX. THE SERVANT RAISED

Humiliation is:

Not final.

Spiritual Principle

God controls:

The final elevation.

LXXXI. THE SERVANT LIFTED UP

John connects “lifted up” with:

The cross.

And with:

Saving attraction.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The very place humanity intended as shame becomes the place from which salvation is proclaimed.

LXXXII. HIGHLY EXALTED

Philippians 2:

Humbled.

Then:

Exalted.

Spiritual Principle

God’s kingdom reverses:

Human verdicts.

LXXXIII. APPALLED AT HIM

The suffering shocks:

Observers.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant’s humiliation was not cosmetic; it was devastatingly real.

LXXXIV. DISFIGURED APPEARANCE

The text emphasizes:

Severity.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption will not come cheaply.

LXXXV. MARRED FORM

The Servant bears:

Humiliation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Before Isaiah explains the meaning of the wounds, he makes sure we see that the wounds are real.

LXXXVI. SPRINKLE MANY NATIONS

Priestly imagery enters:

Servant imagery.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s work is not merely:

Political liberation.

It has:

Purifying significance.

LXXXVII. MANY NATIONS

Again:

Global.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant who was despised locally becomes salvation’s blessing globally.

LXXXVIII. KINGS SILENCED

Authority meets:

Greater authority.

Spiritual Principle

Earthly rulers do not have the final word about:

The Servant.

LXXXIX. UNHEARD THINGS UNDERSTOOD

Revelation reaches:

New people.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God delights to make known His salvation where it has not yet been understood.

XC. ISAIAH 51 AND ISAIAH 52

Isaiah 51

Jerusalem is told:

> **“Awake, awake!”**

After drinking:

The cup.

Isaiah 52

Zion is told:

> **“Awake, awake!”**

And put on:

Strength.

Key Truth

The movement is from awakening after judgment to awakening into restoration.

XCI. ISAIAH 47 AND ISAIAH 52

Isaiah 47

Babylon:

Comes down.

Sits in:

Dust.

Isaiah 52

Zion:

Shakes off dust.

Rises.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God can reverse the positions of oppressor and oppressed.

XCII. ISAIAH 48 AND ISAIAH 52

Isaiah 48

> **“Leave Babylon!”**

Isaiah 52

> **“Depart, depart.”**

Spiritual Principle

The call out of captivity becomes:

Stronger.

XCIII. ISAIAH 49 AND ISAIAH 52

Isaiah 49

The Servant brings salvation to:

The ends of earth.

Isaiah 52

The ends of earth see:

God’s salvation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

What the Servant was commissioned to carry outward is now pictured reaching its intended horizon.

XCIV. ISAIAH 50 AND ISAIAH 52

Isaiah 50

The Servant is:

Beaten.

Mocked.

Spat upon.

Isaiah 52

The Servant is:

Marred.

Then:

Highly exalted.

Key Truth

Isaiah is drawing suffering and exaltation closer together as the Servant song reaches its climax.

XCV. ISAIAH 52 AND ISAIAH 53

The chapter break is:

Modern.

The Servant song begins:

Isaiah 52:13.

And continues directly through:

Isaiah 53:12.

Therefore Isaiah 52:13–15 should be read with:

Isaiah 53.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not stop at the chapter number when the prophetic argument keeps moving.

XCVI. THE SERVANT SONG BEGINS WITH EXALTATION

Before:

Wounds.

Before:

Rejection.

Before:

Bearing sin.

Isaiah tells us:

He wins.

Spiritual Principle

The suffering Servant is never:

A failed Servant.

XCVII. EXALTATION FRAMES THE SUFFERING

Isaiah 52:13:

Exaltation.

Isaiah 53:

Humiliation.

Isaiah 53:12:

Triumph.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant’s suffering must be interpreted inside the certainty of His ultimate victory.

XCVIII. GOOD NEWS AND THE SERVANT

The good news of verse 7:

> **“Your God reigns!”**

The Servant of verse 13:

Carries out the means by which salvation is:

Revealed.

Spiritual Principle

The kingdom announcement and the Servant’s redemptive work belong:

Together.

XCIX. HOLY ARM AND SERVANT

Isaiah 52:10:

God bares His:

Holy arm.

Isaiah 53:1:

> **“To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”**

The transition links God’s saving power with:

The Servant.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant is not separate from God’s saving action; He is central to its revelation.

C. THE NEW EXODUS IN ISAIAH 52

Original Exodus:

Slavery.

Departure.

God before and behind.

Deliverance.

New Exodus:

Babylon.

Departure.

Purity.

God before and behind.

Salvation.

Spiritual Principle

God’s restoration from exile is described using:

Exodus categories.

CI. A GREATER EXODUS

The chapter reaches beyond:

Babylon.

Why?

Because the nations see:

Salvation.

The Servant affects:

Many nations.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The historical return from exile becomes part of a larger saving story fulfilled in Christ.

CII. TEN GREAT CONTRASTS IN ISAIAH 52

1. Sleep → Awakening

2. Dust → Beautiful Garments

3. Chains → Freedom

4. Captivity → Enthronement

5. Blasphemy → Knowledge of God's Name

6. Ruins → Singing

7. Hidden Power → Holy Arm Revealed

8. Babylonian Defilement → Purity

9. Humiliation → Exaltation

10. Rejected Servant → Nations Astonished

Key Truth

Isaiah 52 is a chapter of reversal in which captivity gives way to freedom, shame to beauty, ruins to praise, hidden salvation to worldwide revelation, and the Servant's horrifying humiliation to incomparable exaltation.

CIII. TWELVE GREAT LESSONS FROM ISAIAH 52

1. God Calls Zion to Awake

Principle:

Restoration requires a changed posture.

2. Redemption Cannot Be Bought with Money

Principle:

God alone provides the decisive saving action.

3. God Defends His Name

Principle:

Redemption vindicates the glory of the Lord among the nations.

4. The Gospel Is Good News

Principle:

Peace and salvation are announced because God reigns.

5. The Watchmen’s Waiting Ends in Joy

Principle:

Faithful waiting can become visible fulfillment.

6. Ruins Can Sing

Principle:

Restoration begins before every scar disappears.

7. Salvation Is Worldwide

Principle:

The ends of the earth are included in God’s saving vision.

8. Holiness Belongs to Redemption

Principle:

Freedom from Babylon means separation from Babylon’s uncleanness.

9. God Leads and Guards His People

Principle:

He goes before and stands behind.

10. The Servant Will Be Exalted

Principle:

His mission ends in divine vindication.

11. The Servant Will Suffer Severely

Principle:

Exaltation comes through real humiliation.

12. The Servant's Work Reaches the Nations

Principle:

His saving effect extends far beyond Israel.

CIV. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR PERSONAL STUDY

Question 1

What is Zion commanded to do at the beginning of Isaiah 52?

Awake and put on strength.

Question 2

What is Jerusalem told to wear?

Beautiful garments.

Question 3

What is she told to shake off?

The dust.

Question 4

What is she told to remove from her neck?

The chains of captivity.

Question 5

How was Israel sold?

For nothing.

Question 6

How will God redeem them?

Without money.

Question 7

What earlier nations are mentioned as oppressors?

Egypt and Assyria.

Question 8

What happened to God’s name during Israel’s humiliation?

It was continually blasphemed.

Question 9

What will the people come to know?

God’s name and that He is the One who foretold and acted.

Question 10

Why are the messenger’s feet called beautiful?

Because they carry good news.

Question 11

What does the good news include?

Peace, salvation, and the announcement:

> **“Your God reigns!”**

Question 12

What do the watchmen do?

They shout together for joy.

Question 13

Why do Jerusalem’s ruins sing?

Because God has comforted and redeemed His people.

Question 14

Who sees God’s salvation?

The ends of the earth.

Question 15

What are the redeemed commanded to leave?

The place of captivity and uncleanness.

Question 16

What must characterize those carrying God’s vessels?

Purity.

Question 17

Will the departure happen in panic?

No.

Question 18

Why not?

Because God goes before and serves as rear guard.

Question 19

Who appears in verse 13?

The Servant of the Lord.

Question 20

How is the Servant’s final status described?

Raised, lifted up, and highly exalted.

Question 21

What happened to His appearance?

He was horribly disfigured and marred.

Question 22

What New Testament events correspond with this suffering?

The mocking, beating, scourging, thorn-crowning, crucifixion, and humiliation of Jesus.

Question 23

What effect does the Servant have on many nations?

He “sprinkles” them, language naturally associated with cleansing and priestly action.

Question 24

What happens to kings?

They shut their mouths in astonishment before Him.

Question 25

What do previously uninformed people do?

They see and understand.

Question 26

Where does the Servant passage continue?

Directly into Isaiah 53.

Question 27

What is the central message of verse 7?

God reigns.

Question 28

What is the central connection between redemption and holiness?

Those delivered from Babylon are commanded not to carry its uncleanness with them.

Question 29

What does God’s presence before and behind His people teach?

Their journey is completely under His leadership and protection.

Question 30

What is the great paradox at the chapter’s end?

The Servant is both terribly marred and highly exalted.

CV. PERSONAL APPLICATION

Isaiah 52 asks several searching questions.

Am I Living Like Someone God Has Told to:

Awake?

Or am I still spiritually:

Asleep?

Am I Wearing the Dust of a season God is calling me to:

Rise from?

Am I still holding chains God is calling me to:

Remove?

Do I understand that redemption cannot be:

Purchased?

Earned?

Bought?

Do I know God's name personally?

Or only know:

Religious language?

Do I believe:

"My God reigns"?

When:

Government changes?

Culture shifts?

Trouble comes?

The future feels uncertain?

Am I carrying:

Good news?

Would anyone call my message:

Peace?

Salvation?

Hope?

Have I become a watchman who only warns and never:

Rejoices?

Can I sing in:

Ruins?

Do I believe God's salvation is meant for:

The ends of the earth?

Is there any "Babylon" God has told me:

To leave?

Am I trying to leave captivity while still touching:

Unclean things?

Do I value:

Purity?

Am I panicking about the future when God says:

I go before you?

Am I afraid about what is behind me when God says:

I am your rear guard?

Do I see Christ as:

The exalted Servant?

Do I understand that His suffering was:

Real?

Do I appreciate that His saving work reaches:

Many nations?

Am I willing to carry the message to those who:

Have not heard?

CVI. A CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“Do Not Keep Sitting in the Dust When God Has Told You to Rise”

Zion had been:

Humiliated.

Captive.

Broken.

Then God said:

> **“Shake off your dust; rise up.”**

Principle:

Grace does not deny what happened in the dust, but it refuses to let the dust become your permanent identity.

CVII. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“The Good News Is Not That the World Is Under Control—It Is That God Reigns”

Circumstances may look:

Chaotic.

The message still says:

> **“Your God reigns!”**

Principle:

The gospel rests not on the stability of circumstances but on the sovereignty of God.

CVIII. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“When God Goes Before You and Guards Behind You, Panic Is Unnecessary”

The redeemed do not have to:

Run blindly.

Principle:

Divine presence surrounds the path of obedience.

CIX. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“The Servant Was Marred by Men but Exalted by God”

Human verdict:

Shame.

God’s verdict:

Exaltation.

Principle:

The cross reveals how wrong human judgment can be about the One God has chosen to glorify.

CX. ZION MUST WAKE UP

The call is:

Immediate.

Spiritual Principle

Some breakthroughs begin with:

Spiritual alertness.

CXI. STRENGTH AS CLOTHING

“Put on” suggests:

Visible change.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s strength should affect how the restored person stands.

CXII. BEAUTIFUL GARMENTS AFTER CAPTIVITY

No more:

Prison appearance.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption creates:

New identity.

CXIII. HOLINESS OF THE CITY

The future vision grows toward:

Final purity.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s ultimate city is not merely safe; it is holy.

CXIV. DUST SHAKEN OFF

The dust belonged to:

Humiliation.

Spiritual Principle

There is a time to stop carrying evidence of former defeat as present identity.

CXV. THRONE RESTORED

Dignity returns.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God can restore what judgment temporarily removed.

CXVI. CHAINS BROKEN

Freedom:

Visible.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption must affect:

Bondage.

CXVII. NO MONEY

Human economy cannot:

Purchase grace.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The richest person cannot buy what only the Redeemer can give.

CXVIII. HISTORY OF OPPRESSION

Egypt.

Assyria.

Babylon.

Spiritual Principle

Oppressors change names.

God’s covenant faithfulness:

Does not.

CXIX. BLASPHEMED NAME

God cares how:

Nations interpret history.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s redemption becomes an answer to every claim that He has forgotten or failed His people.

CXX. KNOW MY NAME

God is not merely:

A force.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption is relational.

CXXI. BEAUTIFUL MESSENGER

The messenger arrives over:

Mountains.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The difficulty of the road does not reduce the beauty of the message.

CXXII. GOOD TIDINGS OF PEACE

Peace comes after:

Conflict.

Spiritual Principle

God’s reign restores:

Shalom.

CXXIII. SALVATION ANNOUNCED

People hear:

What God has done.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A preacher of salvation is a herald, not the Savior.

CXXIV. GOD REIGNS NOW

Not:

Someday only.

Spiritual Principle

Divine sovereignty is:

Present reality.

CXXV. WATCHMEN TOGETHER

Unity in:

Joy.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When God fulfills His promise, there is enough joy for every faithful watchman.

CXXVI. SEEING WITH THEIR OWN EYES

Waiting becomes:

Witnessing.

Spiritual Principle

Faith can mature into:

Sight.

CXXVII. RUINS COMMANDed TO PRAISE

Striking.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God may call praise from a place before restoration looks complete because His promise is already sure.

CXXVIII. HOLY ARM REVEALED

God’s power becomes:

Visible.

Spiritual Principle

Salvation reveals:

Strength.

CXXIX. WORLDWIDE SIGHT

Not hidden:

Local event only.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The God of Israel is revealing salvation for the nations.

CXXX. COME OUT

Separation from:

Captivity.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption has:

Direction.

CXXXI. NO UNCLEAN THING

The journey home requires:

Holiness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not celebrate deliverance while carrying the contamination of bondage.

CXXXII. VESSELS OF THE LORD

Sacred responsibility.

Spiritual Principle

Those handling holy things should pursue:

Holy living.

CXXXIII. NO PANIC

Security replaces:

Fear.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Faith walks urgently when God commands, but it need not walk anxiously when God guards.

CXXXIV. GOD BEFORE AND BEHIND

Complete:

Coverage.

Spiritual Principle

No exposed side.

CXXXV. “SEE, MY SERVANT”

Attention shifts:

Decisively.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

After all the promises of salvation, God points the reader toward the Servant.

CXXXVI. SERVANT WISDOM

He acts:

Perfectly.

Spiritual Principle

The saving mission is not:

Improvised.

CXXXVII. EXALTATION BEFORE SUFFERING

God reveals:

Outcome first.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The coming suffering should never be mistaken for ultimate defeat.

CXXXVIII. APPALLING SUFFERING

Observers react:

Strongly.

Spiritual Principle

Sin’s redemption involves:

Cost.

CXXXIX. MARRED APPEARANCE

The Servant is treated:

Brutally.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Grace is free to us, but it was not cheap to the Servant.

CXL. SPRINKLING NATIONS

Purification imagery.

Spiritual Principle

The Servant’s work cleanses:

Many.

CXLI. KINGS SILENCED

The powerful become:

Speechless.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Servant who was mocked by soldiers becomes the One before whom kings lose their words.

CXLII. UNREACHED PEOPLE

Paul later sees missionary significance here.

Spiritual Principle

The gospel presses toward:

Places where Christ is not yet known.

CXLIII. ISAIAH 52 AS A GOSPEL CHAPTER

The chapter contains:

Good news.

Peace.

Salvation.

God’s reign.

Redemption.

Purity.

The Servant.

The nations.

Key Truth

Isaiah 52 is not merely about return from Babylon; it opens outward into the worldwide gospel accomplished through the suffering and exalted Servant.

CXLIV. ISAIAH 52 AS A KINGDOM CHAPTER

“Your God reigns!”

Everything flows from:

Kingship.

Spiritual Principle

Salvation is the action of:

The reigning God.

CXLV. ISAIAH 52 AS A MISSIONARY CHAPTER

Messenger.

Mountains.

Good news.

Ends of earth.

Many nations.

Kings.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The chapter begins with redeemed Zion and ends with amazed nations.

CXLVI. ISAIAH 52 AS A HOLINESS CHAPTER

Holy city.

Holy arm.

Purity.

Vessels.

Spiritual Principle

God’s salvation never separates:

Grace.

From:

Holiness.

CXLVII. ISAIAH 52 AS A CHRISTOLOGICAL CHAPTER

Servant:

Wise.

Exalted.

Marred.

Cleansing nations.

Astonishing kings.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The final verses form the doorway into one of the clearest prophetic portraits of Christ’s redemptive suffering in the Old Testament.

CXLVIII. NINE GREAT MOVEMENTS IN ISAIAH 52

1. Zion Awakens

She rises from weakness and dust.

2. Zion Is Freed

Chains are removed.

3. God Defends His Name

Oppression and blasphemy are answered by redemption.

4. Good News Is Announced

“Your God reigns!”

5. The Watchmen Rejoice

They see God returning to Zion.

6. The Ruins Sing

Jerusalem is comforted and redeemed.

7. The Nations See Salvation

God bares His holy arm publicly.

8. The Redeemed Depart in Purity

God goes before and guards behind.

9. The Servant Is Revealed

He is terribly marred yet destined for supreme exaltation and worldwide impact.

Key Truth

Isaiah 52 moves from Zion's awakening to the Servant's exaltation, showing that God's redemption restores His people, reveals His reign, reaches the nations, demands holiness, and finds its deepest fulfillment through the suffering Servant.

CXLIX. FINAL APPLICATION

Isaiah Chapter 52 begins with:

> **"Awake."**

Maybe there are seasons when God's people become accustomed to:

Dust.

Chains.

Defeat.

Captivity.

They begin to believe:

This is simply who I am.

God says:

No.

> **"Shake off your dust."**

“Rise up.”

“Free yourself from the chains.”

Grace does not ask us to deny:

The captivity happened.

It announces:

Captivity does not own the future.

Then God says:

You were sold:

For nothing.

You will be redeemed:

Without money.

In other words:

Your deliverance does not depend on:

Your wealth.

Your power.

Your ability to negotiate.

God acts as:

Redeemer.

Then comes the message over:

The mountains.

“Your God reigns!”

That is still good news.

When the world feels:

Chaotic—

God reigns.

When governments shift—

God reigns.

When nations rise and fall—

God reigns.

When circumstances change—

God reigns.

When you cannot see how redemption will come—

God reigns.

Then Jerusalem's:

Ruins.

Are commanded to:

Sing.

Maybe that seems strange.

Why sing while the walls still look:

Broken?

Because redemption is:

Certain.

Sometimes faith sings before reconstruction is:

Complete.

Then the Lord bares:

His holy arm.

All nations see:

Salvation.

This means your redemption is not merely:

About you.

God's saving work becomes:

Testimony.

Then:

"Depart, depart."

Freedom means:

Leaving.

If God brings you out of:

Babylon—

Do not carry Babylon in:

Your heart.

If God breaks:

Chains—

Do not keep polishing them.

If God calls you into:

Holiness—

Do not call impurity:

Freedom.

Then God gives one of the great promises of:

Security.

“The Lord will go before you.”

And:

“The God of Israel will be your rear guard.”

Ahead:

God.

Behind:

God.

That means you do not have to:

Panic.

Then suddenly the chapter points:

To the Servant.

“See, My servant.”

The One through whom salvation reaches its deepest fulfillment.

He will be:

Exalted.

But before the crown:

Disfigurement.

Before vindication:

Humiliation.

Before kings fall silent:

People are appalled.

The Servant is:

Marred.

Mocked.

Rejected.

Suffering.

Yet God already tells us the end:

“Highly exalted.”

That is crucial.

The cross does not mean:

The mission failed.

The wounds do not mean:

God abandoned the Servant.

The humiliation does not mean:

The enemy won.

The Servant’s suffering becomes part of:

The saving purpose.

And through Him:

Many nations.

Are affected.

Kings:

Fall silent.

Those who had not heard:

Understand.

That prepares us for:

Isaiah 53.

There Isaiah will answer the question:

Why did the Servant suffer?

But Isaiah 52 makes sure we know before entering the suffering:

The Servant will:

Succeed.

The Servant will:

Be exalted.

And the salvation accomplished through Him will reach:

The nations.

So Isaiah 52 says:

Wake up.

Shake off the dust.

Rise.

Break with captivity.

Believe the good news.

Your God:

Reigns.

Sing in the ruins.

Walk in purity.

Do not panic.

God goes before.

God guards behind.

And fix your eyes on:

The Servant.

The One marred by men.

Exalted by God.

And revealed as the center of:

Salvation.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You that You are:

Our Redeemer.

Our King.

Our Defender.

Our Salvation.

Father, awaken us.

Where we have become spiritually:

Sleepy.

Discouraged.

Defeated.

Accustomed to captivity.

Speak again:

> **“Awake, awake.”**

Help us shake off:

The dust.

Rise from:

Defeat.

Refuse to live under chains You have broken.

Clothe us with:

Salvation.

Righteousness.

Holiness.

Father, thank You that redemption cannot be:

Purchased.

Earned.

Negotiated.

Thank You for:

Grace.

Thank You for the good news:

“Your God reigns!”

Let that truth govern our:

Fear.

Worry.

Thinking.

Ministry.

Future.

Father, make our feet:

Beautiful.

Not because of who we are—

But because of:

The message we carry.

Help us proclaim:

Peace.

Salvation.

The gospel.

Your kingdom.

Father, put songs in:

Ruins.

Give hope to:

Broken places.

Reveal Your holy arm.

Let people everywhere see:

Your salvation.

Father, call us into:

Purity.

Help us leave behind:

Every unclean thing.

Do not let us bring the values of Babylon into:

The life of redemption.

Thank You that You go:

Before us.

And stand:

Behind us.

Free us from:

Panic.

Father, most of all:

Thank You for:

Your Servant.

Thank You for:

Jesus Christ.

The obedient Servant.

The suffering Servant.

The exalted Servant.

Thank You that He was:

Mocked.

Beaten.

Marred.

Rejected.

Yet His suffering did not become:

Defeat.

Thank You that You:

Raised Him.

Exalted Him.

Glorified Him.

And through Him Your salvation reaches:

The nations.

Prepare our hearts as we move into:

Isaiah 53.

Help us see:

The wounds.

The substitution.

The sacrifice.

The victory.

And the glory of:

Jesus Christ.

In His name,

Amen.

Key Verse

> **“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!’” — Isaiah 52:7**

Central Truth

The Lord calls Zion to rise from dust and captivity because He freely redeems His people, vindicates His holy name, announces the good news that He reigns, reveals His salvation to the ends of the earth, calls the redeemed to purity under His protecting presence, and introduces the Servant who will suffer shocking humiliation yet be raised, lifted up, highly exalted, and become the means by which many nations encounter God’s cleansing and saving work.

Isaiah 52 in One Sentence

Isaiah calls captive Zion to awake, rise, shake off her chains, and rejoice in redemption without money, announces the beautiful gospel message that God reigns, portrays Jerusalem’s ruins singing as the Lord reveals His salvation to the ends of the earth, commands the redeemed to leave Babylon in purity while God goes before and guards behind them, and then introduces the Servant who will be horribly marred yet ultimately raised, exalted, and revealed as the source of worldwide astonishment and cleansing salvation.