

The Watchman's Calls and the Lord's Responses

Addressee	Call	Response
Arm of the Lord	Impv: Deliver God's people	In spite of their fear, the Lord will deliver his people
Jerusalem	Ind: Her suffering is terrible	The Lord will bring an end to her suffering, and turn it on those who oppress her
Zion	Impv: Rejoice and arise	The Lord's motive: restore the reputation of his name

“The Lord’s people are to **rejoice** because the promised Servant will **deliver** Zion from her **suffering**.”

51:12-16, Who is “You”?

Isa 51:12-16 I, even I, *am* he that comforteth **you**:
who *art* **thou**, that **thou** shouldest be afraid of a man *that* shall die, and of
the son of man *which* shall be made as grass;
13 And **forgettest** the LORD **thy** maker, that hath stretched forth the
heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth; and **hast feared**
continually every day because of the fury of the oppressor, as if he were
ready to destroy? and where *is* the fury of the oppressor? 14 The captive
exile hasteneth that he may be loosed, and that he should not die in the
pit, nor that his bread should fail. 15 But I *am* the LORD **thy** God, that
divided the sea, whose waves roared: The LORD of hosts *is* his name.
16 And I have put my words in **thy** mouth, and I have covered **thee** in the
shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the
foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, **Thou art** my people.

Key: **2mp**, **2fs**, **2ms**

Distinctions within 51:12-16

Ref.	What the Lord Offers	Allusions to Other Chapters
12-14	Comfort to his people	ch. 38-40
15-16	Power over the enemy	ch. 49, 60, 65-66

Parallels btw 51:12-14 and ch. 38-40

51:12-14	ch. 38-40
<p>12 I, <i>even I, am</i> he that comforteth you:</p>	<p>40:1 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. 2 Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, ... 11 He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry <i>them</i> in his bosom, <i>and</i> shall gently lead those that are with young.</p>
<p>who <i>art</i> thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man <i>that</i> shall die, and of the son of man <i>which</i> shall be made as grass;</p>	<p>40:6-8 All flesh <i>is</i> grass, and all the goodness thereof <i>is</i> as the flower of the field: 7 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people <i>is</i> grass. 8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.</p>
<p>13 And forgettest the LORD thy maker, that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth;</p>	<p>40:21-22 Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth? 22 <i>It is</i> he ... that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:</p>
<p>14 The bowed one shall quickly be loosed, and shall not die to the pit, nor his bread fail.</p>	<p>38:17 Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul <i>delivered it</i> from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.</p>

Parallels to 51:16a

51:16a	49:2
And I have put my words in thy mouth ,	he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword
and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand	in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me

Echoes 11:4

he shall smite the earth with **the rod of his mouth**, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

Reflected in the NT:

- Heb 4:12 For the **word** of God is quick, and powerful, and **sharper** than any **twoedged sword**,
- Rev 1:16 and **out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword**:
- Rev 2:12-16 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath **the sharp sword with two edges**; ... 16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with **the sword of my mouth**.
- Rev 19:15 And **out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword**, that with it he should smite the nations:

Parallels to 51:16b

(Purpose for sending the Servant; future:) 16b that I may **plant** the **heavens**, and **lay the foundations** of the **earth**

Developed later in Isaiah:

- 65:17 For, behold, I **create new heavens** and a **new earth**: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.
- 66:22 For as the **new heavens** and the **new earth**, which I will **make**, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

Reflected in the NT:

- 2Pe 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for **new heavens** and a **new earth**, wherein dwelleth righteousness.
- Rev 21:1-5 And I saw a **new heaven** and a **new earth**: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

What does God do with the Heavens?

Isa 40:22 *It is he ... that **stretcheth out** the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:*

Isa 42:5 Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and **stretched them out**; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it;...

Isa 44:24 ... I *am* the LORD that maketh all *things*; that **stretcheth forth** the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;

Isaiah 45:12 I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, *even* my hands, have **stretched out** the heavens, and all their host have I commanded.

Isaiah 51:13 And forgettest the LORD thy maker, that hath **stretched forth** the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth; ...

But

Isa 51:16 that I may **plant** the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth

From “stretched out” to “planted”

The Old Heavens were inaccessibly remote:

- Deu 30:11 For this commandment which I command thee this day, it *is* not hidden from thee, **neither *is* it far off**. **12 It *is* not in heaven**, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?
- Pro 30:4 **Who hath ascended up into heaven**, or descended?
- Joh 3:13 And **no man hath ascended up to heaven**, but he that came down from heaven, *even* the Son of man which is in heaven.

In the new creation, heaven comes down to earth:

- Rev 21:1-3 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and **he will dwell with them**, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Parallels to 51:16c

16c **say unto Zion, Thou art my people [ammi].**

Hos 1:8-2:1 she conceived, and bare a son. 9 Then said God, Call his name **Loammi: for ye are not my people**, and I will not be your God. 10 ... it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, **Ye are not my people**, there it shall be said unto them, **Ye are the sons** of the living God. ... 2:1 **Say ye unto your brethren, Ammi [my people]; ...**

Isaiah and Hosea are contemporaries:

- Isa 1:1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem **in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah**, kings of Judah.
- Hos 1:1 The word of the LORD that came unto Hosea, the son of Beerī, **in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah**, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.