

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 wisdom and power?

- A. This servant spoke words to others that displayed the very character of God.
 - 1. We have learned that His words were a two-edged sword, bringing needed pain to the mighty and arrogant. **(Isa 49:2)**
 - 2. He also has the wisdom and gentleness to speak powerful words of encouragement to the weak, rejected and those near spiritual death! **(Isa 42:2-3)**
 - 3. In every case these words were from a servant, one unselfishly seeking the best of others! This included His enemies!
- B. Where did this Servant obtain such wisdom?
 - 1. As both God and man Jesus did go through a learning curve! **(Lk 2:52)**
 - 2. Both His disciples and enemies asked this very question! **(Jn 7:15)**
 - 3. Jesus gives us the answer and urges us to follow Him! **(Jn 7:16-18)**

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

- A. The Servant had the tongue of the learned. **(Isa 50:4)**
 - 1. He awed those who studied greatly. **(Mt 13:54; Lk 2:46-47)**
 - 2. The servant's tongue was powerful! **(Isa 49:2; Rev 1:16)**
 - 3. Those who debated Him had their hearts exposed and their arguments shown to be foolish. If God's truth was the goal, then why stop asking? They closed their ears to this Servant! **(Mt 22:46; Mk 12:34; Lk 20:39-40; Mt 13:15)**
 - 4. He knew how to preserve those who were weary. **(Isa 42:2-3)**
 - a. Powerful men tend to crush or dismiss the weak, Jesus knew what to say!
 - b. Our Lord wants us to know His wisdom awaits us! **(Mt 11:28-29)**
- B. How does one sustain their strength and wisdom in doing God's work over time?
 - 1. This Servant had an ear that listened to God in complete trust! **(Isa 50:4-5)**
 - 2. "Morning by Morning" he prayed and listened to the Father. **(Jn 8:28-29)**
 - 3. It is a very risky thing to completely open your heart (ear) to another. This is how we will be able to identify this servant! **(Mt 26:39)**
 - 4. Other prophecies speak of the opened ears of the Messiah! **(Ps 40:6-8)**
 - 4. If we would just truly listen, God will bless us! **(Psa 119:99; 1 Thess 2:13)**
- C. Why do we become weary and are tempted to quit? Are we really listening?
 - 1. Satan appeals to emotion over principle! **(Prov 18:13; Acts 25:16)**
 - 2. When we stop hearing and thinking then we will become pawns of Satan! **(Acts 17:5, 11)**
 - 3. The spiritually "deaf" will only "stand" after they have weighed the consequences rather than weighing the truth. **(Mt 21:25-27)** (Ex. Man on cliff)

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 harm's way.

1. He was publicly *scourged, placed with criminals and spit upon*. (Mt 26:67)
2. Why do men *try to shame the innocent*? (Jn 9:22, 33-34; 12:42-43)
- B. This Servant did not yield! He was not *in any way ashamed* but determined.
 1. He had *a face like flint*. (Ezk 3:8-9)
 2. How many have tried to *make us ashamed* of what is right?
 3. Can we *see what the disciples saw*? (Lk 9:51-53; Jn 11:16)
 4. For what purpose has God placed *you and I* here on this earth?
- C. His strength came in *knowing God was with Him*. (Psa 22:3-5)
 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)
- D. May we never be ashamed of *God's truth nor of His people*! (Rom 1:16; 2 Tim 1:8)

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

- A. The Servant knows that God is near and *will defeat all enemies*! (Isa 50:8)
 1. Listen to *other promises of the Messiah*. (Psa 34:18-22)
 2. Consider the song "Be with me Lord" and *what God does*. (1 Pt 3:12-13)
- B. Those that fight God will fail. Consider the 3 questions asked! (Isa 50:8-9)
 1. Who will contend with Me? Who *is* My adversary? Who *is* he *who* will condemn Me?
 2. You will not *defeat or outlast God*! (Ps 102:25-27)
 3. Do not *fight God or His people*. God will defeat all! (Rom 8:31)

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

- A. Every man who has ever lived will be identified by *what they really listen to!*
 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*.
- 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."

 1. How many trust in the great men of wisdom put forth by this world?
 2. How many brethren are feeding on the books of men and *neglecting honest Bible study*? Will the world applaud a real disciple?
 3. The "sparks" of men *are temporary* and will turn the hearts of the shallow.
 4. What is the only light that can *prepare us to meet God*? (Jn 3:19-21)

Conclusion: God will never let those who trust Him be put to shame. (Joel 2:26-27)