

God's Chosen Servant

Key Verse: *“Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.”*
—Isaiah 42:1

Selected Scripture:
Isaiah 42:1-9

In so doing, he gave a message of hope and compassion to the downtrodden common people in Israel who were suffering under the yoke of Roman oppression. “A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.”—vss. 3,4

Christ faithfully laid down his life as a sacrifice for all. (I Tim. 2:4-6) Thus we are assured that God's plan of salvation will provide an opportunity for each member of the human family to attain life under the provisions of the New Covenant. “I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a

OUR KEY VERSE IS A PRO-
phetic reference to Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God. He is the Father's agent through whom the divine plan to bless the human family during the promised kingdom of righteousness is to be achieved.—Matt. 12:15-21

During his earthly ministry Jesus demonstrated meekness and humility as a servant of God—“He shall not cry, nor lift

light of the Gentiles; To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.”—Isa. 42:6,7

The complete nature of the servant described in this lesson was not understood for a time until after Christ’s death and resurrection. The Apostle Paul identifies the consecrated spirit begotten followers of Jesus as being “workers together with him” and that we should not receive God’s grace in vain. (II Cor. 6:1) The completion of Christ’s body as joint-sacrificers must occur before the promised earthly blessings will come to Israel and the world of mankind.

Such a prospect should inspire each of us toward faithfulness in our walk. It should motivate us daily to strive for holiness that we may be participants in the glorious work of helping to restore mankind to that harmonious relationship with the Heavenly Father that existed in the Garden of Eden prior to Adam’s disobedience.—Acts 3:20,21

The process of removing past sins and iniquities from the human family will be a gradual work wherein the divine law will be retraced in the hearts of all who desire to obtain God’s favor. This process will come about through adherence to the principles of righteousness that will be enforced when Satan is bound for a thousand years, and no longer able to deceive the people.—Rev. 20:1-3

The glorious outcome of this program for reconciling mankind back to God will result in the complete eradication of evil and the institution of peace, harmony and perfect conditions to be enjoyed forever by all who love the Creator supremely. (Rev. 20:10-15; 21:4-6) How wonderful it will be when the following sentiments are expressed by all intelligent beings: “Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name. I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore.”—Ps. 86:11,12 ■