

Isaiah 51:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the people; the isles shall wait upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust.

Analysis

The promise 'My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth' emphasizes the imminent arrival of God's deliverance. The phrase 'mine arms shall judge the people' depicts divine strength executing justice and salvation. The prediction that 'the isles shall wait upon me' and 'on mine arm shall they trust' shows Gentiles expecting salvation from Israel's God - a radical vision in ethnic-particularist context.

Historical Context

This began fulfilling when gospel spread to coastal Mediterranean regions (the 'isles'), but awaits complete fulfillment when 'every knee bows' to Christ (Philippians 2:10). God's 'arm' is Christ who executes judgment and saves.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the nearness of God's righteousness create urgency in your pursuit of holiness?
2. What does Gentile inclusion in salvation promises teach about the scope of Christ's redemptive work?

Interlinear Text

כִּרְבָּן	צְדָקָתִי	יָצָא אֵלֶיךָ	יִשְׁעָה	זָרָעָה	עַמּוֹת
is near	My righteousness	is gone forth	my salvation	and mine arms	the people
H7138	H6664	H3318	H3468	H2220	H5971
יְשַׁפֵּת תִּשְׁפַּת	אַל יְאִים אַלְיָם	יְאִים אַל	זָרָעָה	יְחִילָה	
shall judge	the isles	shall wait	and mine arms	shall they trust	
H8199	H413	H339	H6960	H2220	H3176

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 46:13 (Salvation): I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory.

Isaiah 42:4 (Judgment): He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.

Isaiah 60:9 (Parallel theme): Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (Judgment): For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Romans 2:16 (Judgment): In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

Isaiah 49:1 (Parallel theme): Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name.

Isaiah 56:1 (Salvation): Thus saith the LORD, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.

Isaiah 63:5 (Salvation): And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.

Isaiah 40:10 (Parallel theme): Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

Acts 17:31 (Righteousness): Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.