

Isaiah Week 31

ISAIAH

THE FIFTH GOSPEL



‘Vaccine passports’ will help you travel abroad this year. But they won’t be without their challenges

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As vaccination rollouts gather pace around the world, attention is now turning to vaccines of another kind: vaccine passports.

Last week, the International Air Transport Association announced the [launch of its new digital travel pass](#) as “the way forward” in resuming quarantine-free international travel.

The app, which is being tested by 30 carriers, will allow governments and airlines to collect, access and share encrypted information related to passengers’ Covid-19 test and vaccination status prior to travel.

The International Chamber of Commerce and the World Economic Forum have created similar apps — ICC AOKpass and CommonPass — to allow travelers to document their medical status electronically. Countries such as [Denmark and Sweden](#) are launching their own health passports, and [even tech giants](#) are looking to get in on the act.

What are digital health passports and will they facilitate a return to the skies this year?

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What is a vaccine passport?

Also known as a digital health pass, a vaccine passport is digital documentation that an individual has been vaccinated against a virus, in this case Covid.

Stored on a phone or digital wallet, the data is typically presented as a QR code and also can show if a person has tested negative for a virus.

Bible Students Question

Does God foretell in the Bible that a code or number will need to be shown to be able to purchase something or gain access to the right to purchase something?

Isaiah 48: 3 (NIV)

I foretold the former things long ago,
my mouth announced them and I made them known;
then suddenly I acted, and they came to pass.

Isaiah 48: 4 (NIV)

*For I knew how stubborn you were;
your neck muscles were iron,
your forehead was bronze.*

Isaiah 48: 5 (NIV)

*Therefore I told you these things
long ago;
before they happened I announced
them to you
so that you could not say,
'My images brought them about;
my wooden image and metal god
ordained them.'*

Question

Who do people tend to give credit to when God moves?

Isaiah 48: 5 (NIV)

*Therefore I told you these things
long ago;
before they happened I announced
them to you
so that you could not say,
'My images brought them about;
my wooden image and metal god
ordained them.'*

Isaiah 48: 6 (NIV)

*You have heard these things; look at
them all.*

Will you not admit them?

*“From now on I will tell you of new
things,
of hidden things unknown to you.*

Isaiah 48: 7 (NIV)

*They are created now, and not long ago;
you have not heard of them before today.*

*So you cannot say,
'Yes, I knew of them.'*

Isaiah 48: 8 (NIV)

*You have neither heard nor
understood;
from of old your ears have not
been open.*

*Well do I know how treacherous you
are;
you were called a rebel from birth.*

Isaiah 48: 9 (NIV)

*For my own name's sake I delay my
wrath;
for the sake of my praise I hold it
back from you,
so as not to destroy you
completely.*

Isaiah 48: 10-11 (NIV)

*See, I have refined you, though not
as silver; I have tested you in the
furnace of affliction.*

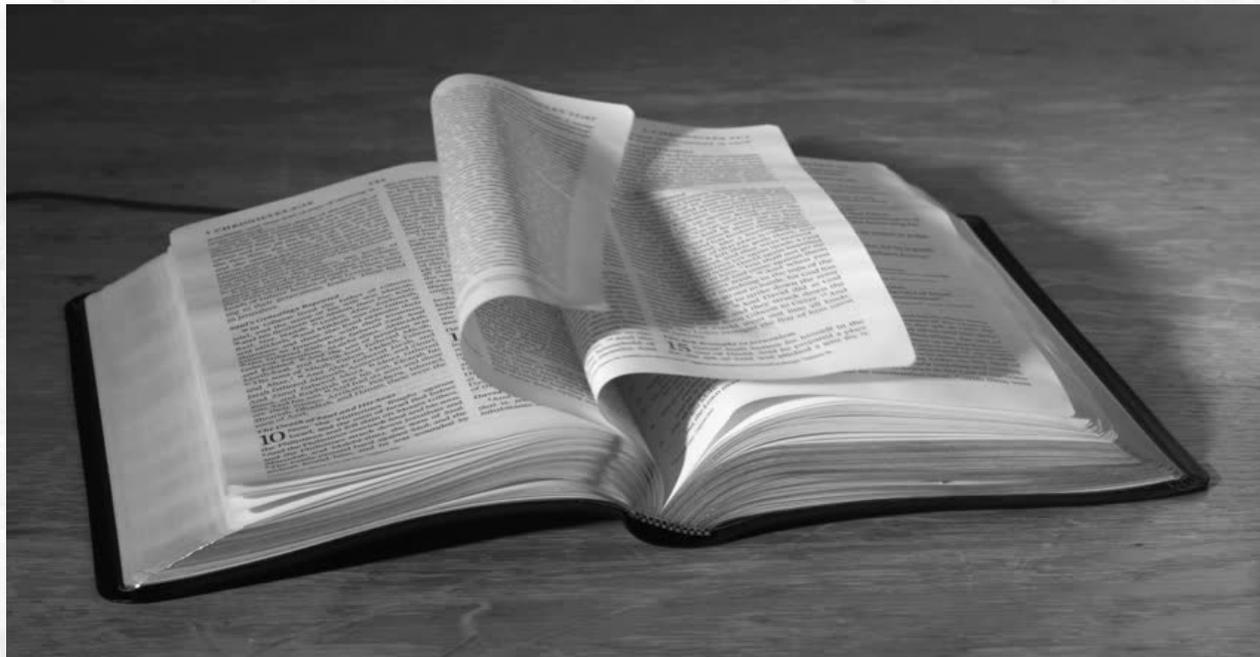
*For my own sake, for my own sake, I
do this.*

*How can I let myself be defamed?
I will not yield my glory to
another.*

Isaiah 48: 12 (NIV)

*“Listen to me, Jacob,
Israel, whom I have called:
I am he;
I am the first and I am the
last.*

Please turn to:
Revelation 1: 17-18



Revelation 1: 17-18 (NIV)

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

Isaiah 48: 13 (NIV)

*My own hand laid the foundations
of the earth,
and my right hand spread out the
heavens;
when I summon them,
they all stand up together.*

Isaiah 48: 14 (NIV)

*“Come together, all of you, and
listen:*

*Which of the idols has foretold these
things?*

*The Lord’s chosen ally will carry out
his purpose against Babylon;
his arm will be against the
Babylonians.*

Isaiah 48: 15 (NIV)

*I, even I, have spoken;
yes, I have called him.
I will bring him,
and he will succeed in his
mission.*

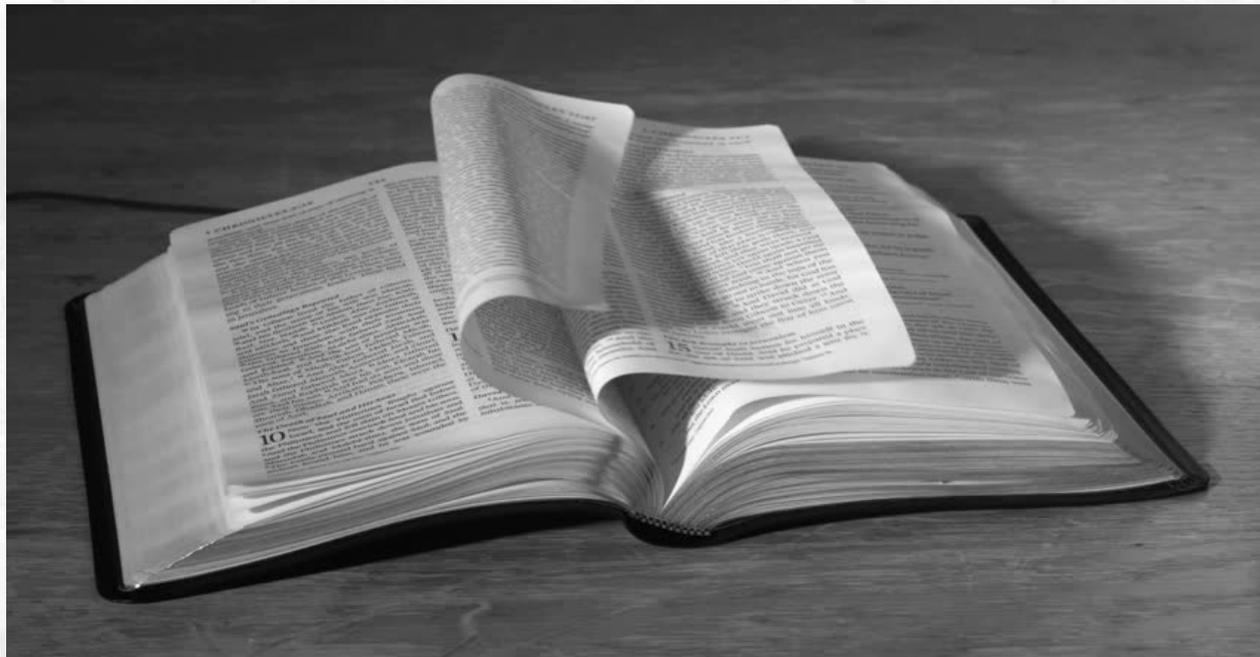
Isaiah 48: 16 (NIV)

“Come near me and listen to this:

*“From the first announcement I
have not spoken in secret;
at the time it happens, I am
there.”*

*And now the Sovereign Lord has
sent me,
endowed with his Spirit.*

Please turn to:
Matthew 11: 28



Matthew 11: 28 (NIV)

*"Come to me, all you who are
weary and burdened, and I will give
you rest.*

Isaiah 48: 16 (NIV)

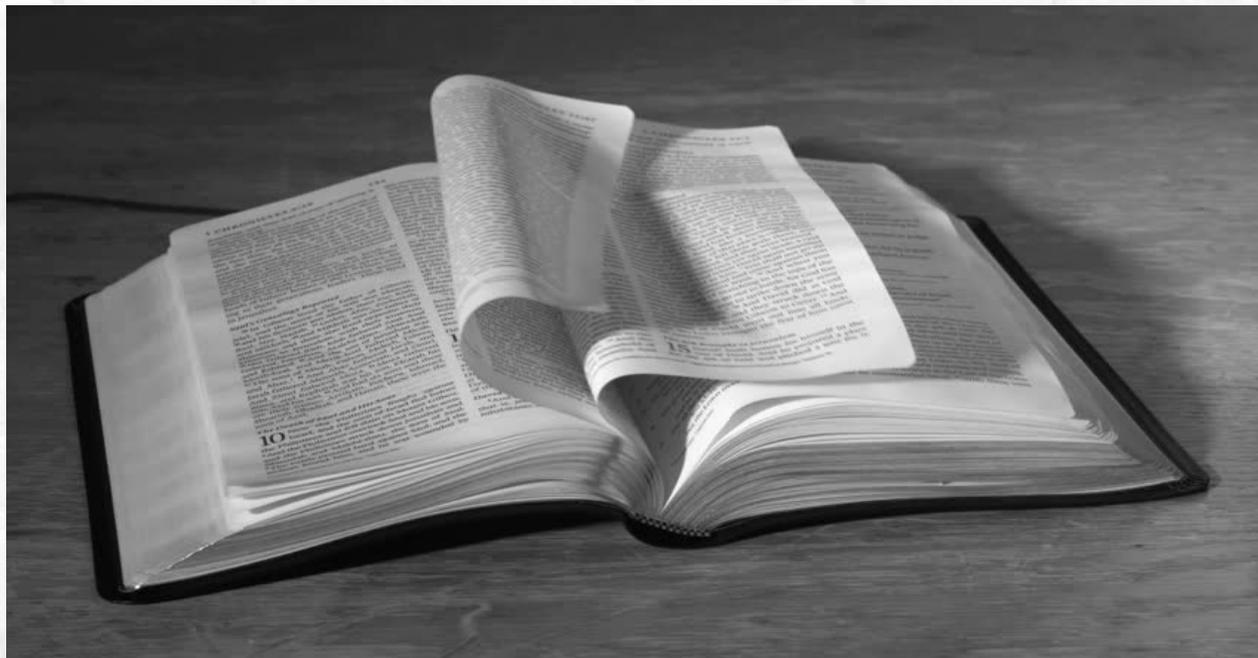
“Come near me and listen to this:

*“From the first announcement I
have not spoken in secret;
at the time it happens, I am
there.”*

*And now the Sovereign Lord has
sent me,
endowed with his Spirit.*

Please turn to:

John 18: 20



John 18: 20 (NIV)

*“I have spoken openly to the world,”
Jesus replied. “I always taught in
synagogues or at the temple, where
all the Jews come together. I said
nothing in secret.”*

Isaiah 48: 16 (NIV)

“Come near me and listen to this:

*“From the first announcement I
have not spoken in secret;
at the time it happens, I am
there.”*

*And now the Sovereign Lord has
sent me,
endowed with his Spirit.*

Isaiah 48: 17 (NIV)

*This is what the Lord says –
your Redeemer, the Holy One of
Israel:*

*“I am the Lord your God,
who teaches you what is best for
you,
who directs you in the way you
should go.*

Isaiah 48: 18 (NIV)

*If only you had paid attention to my
commands,
your peace would have been
like a river,
your well-being like the waves
of the sea.*

Question

Do we see peace in our
nation today?

Question

Do we see well-being in our society today?

Isaiah 48: 19 (NIV)

*Your descendants would have been
like the sand,
your children like its numberless
grains;
their name would never be blotted
out
nor destroyed from before me.”*

Isaiah 48: 20 (NIV)

*Leave Babylon,
flee from the Babylonians!
Announce this with shouts of joy
and proclaim it.
Send it out to the ends of the earth;
say, "The Lord has redeemed his
servant Jacob."*

Isaiah 48: 21 (NIV)

*They did not thirst when he led
them through the deserts;
he made water flow for them from
the rock;
he split the rock
and water gushed out.*

Question

Why is there no peace in our society today?



Isaiah 48: 22 (NIV)

*“There is no peace,” says the Lord,
“for the wicked.”*

The next several chapters are
all about Jesus!

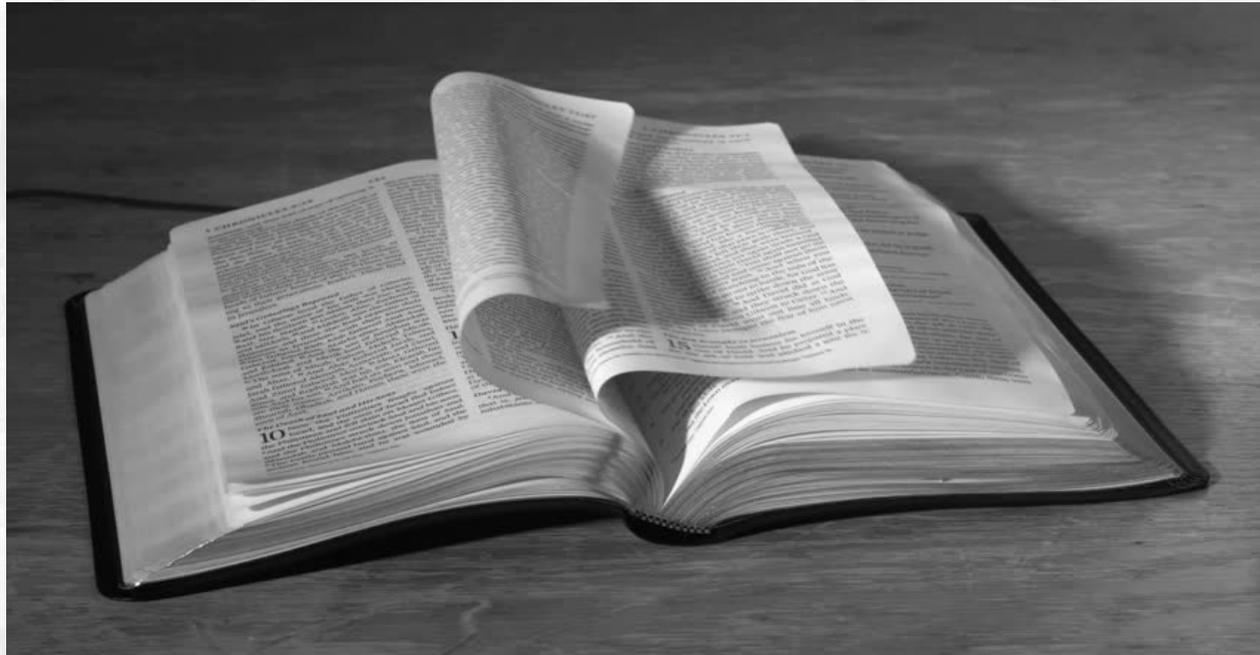
Chapter 49 gives us an
overview of the Messiah's
heart and mission.

Isaiah 49: 1 (NIV)

*“Listen to me, you islands;
hear this, you distant nations:
Before I was born the Lord called
me;
from my mother’s womb he
has spoken my name.”*

Please turn to:

Isaiah 7: 14

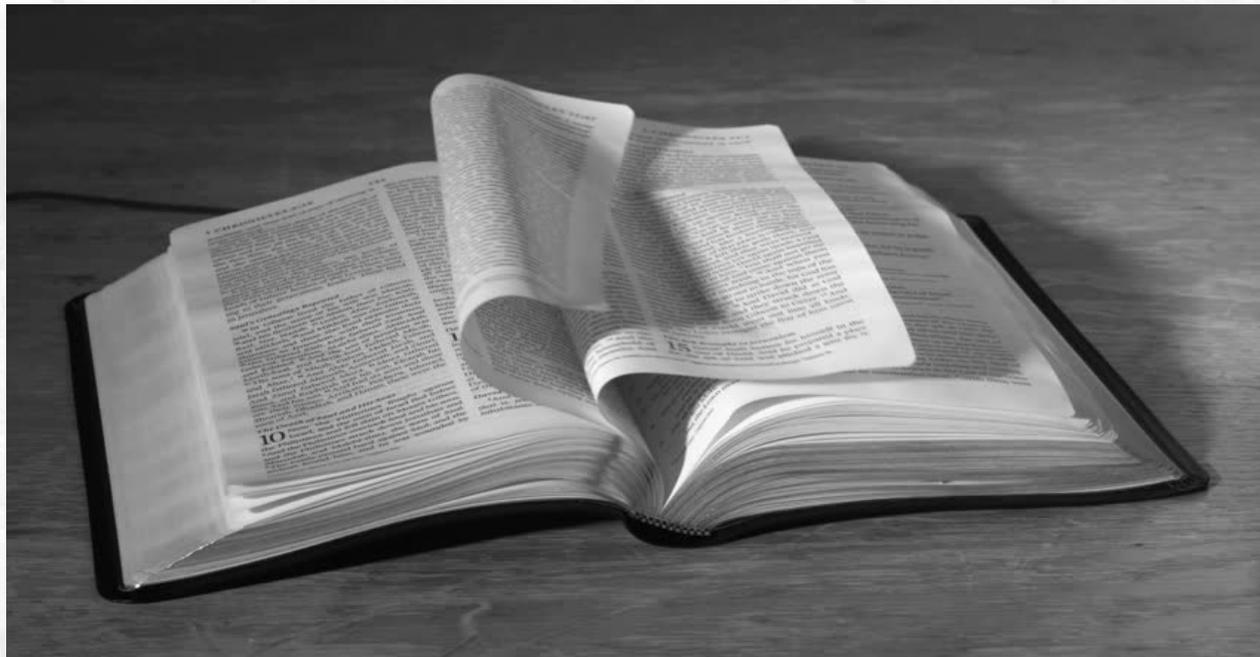


Isaiah 7: 14 (NIV)

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Please turn to:

Luke 4: 16-21



Luke 4: 16-21 (NIV)

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

Luke 4: 16-21 (NIV)

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Luke 4: 16-21 (NIV)

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down.

The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

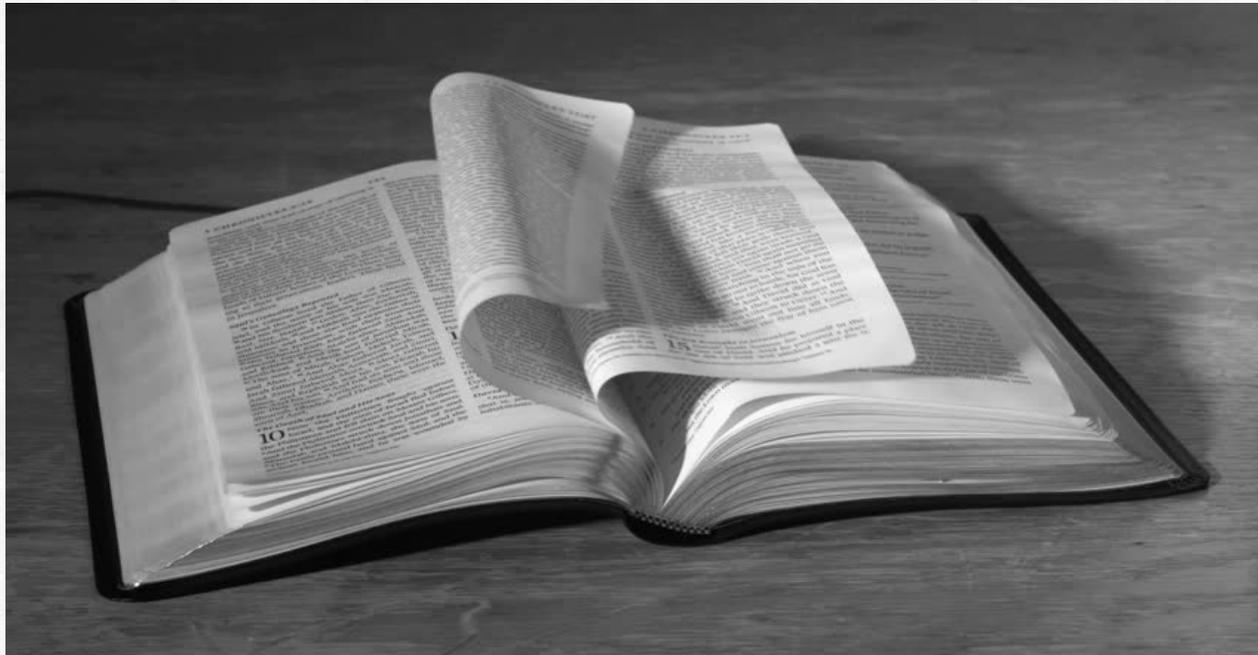
Isaiah 49: 2 (NIV)

*He made my mouth like a
sharpened sword,*

*in the shadow of his hand he hid
me;*

*he made me into a polished arrow
and concealed me in his quiver.*

Please turn to:
Hebrews 4: 12-13



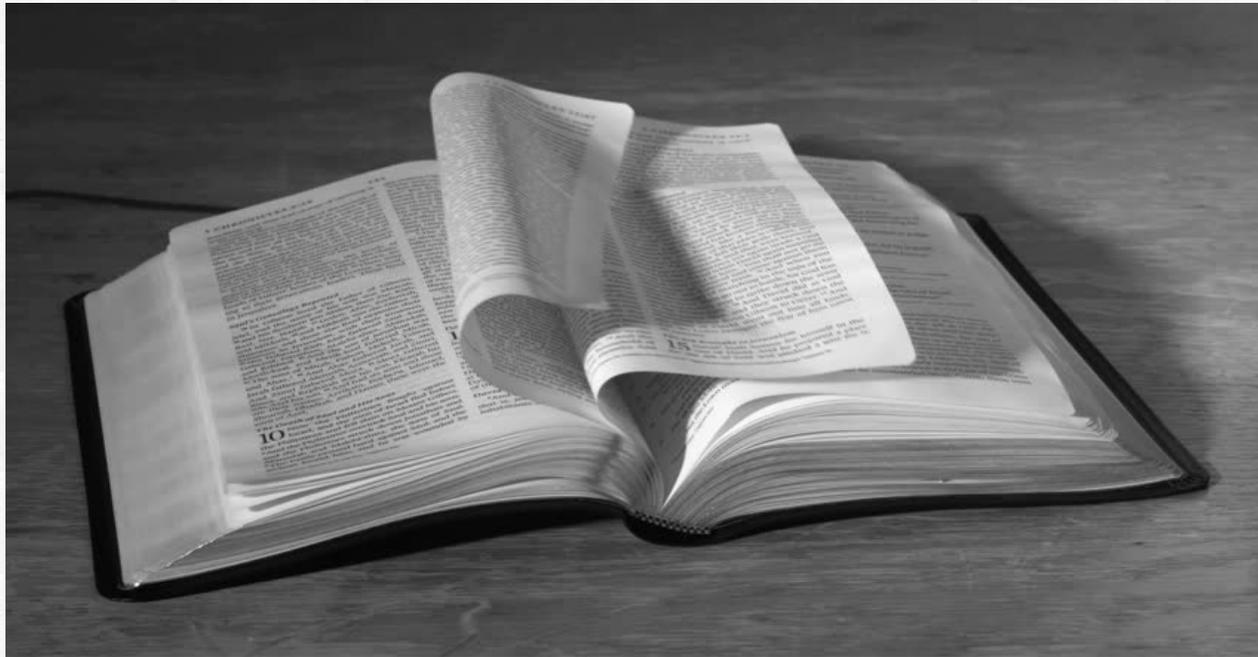
Hebrews 4: 12-13 (NIV)

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4: 12-13 (NIV)

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Please turn to:
Revelation 1: 16



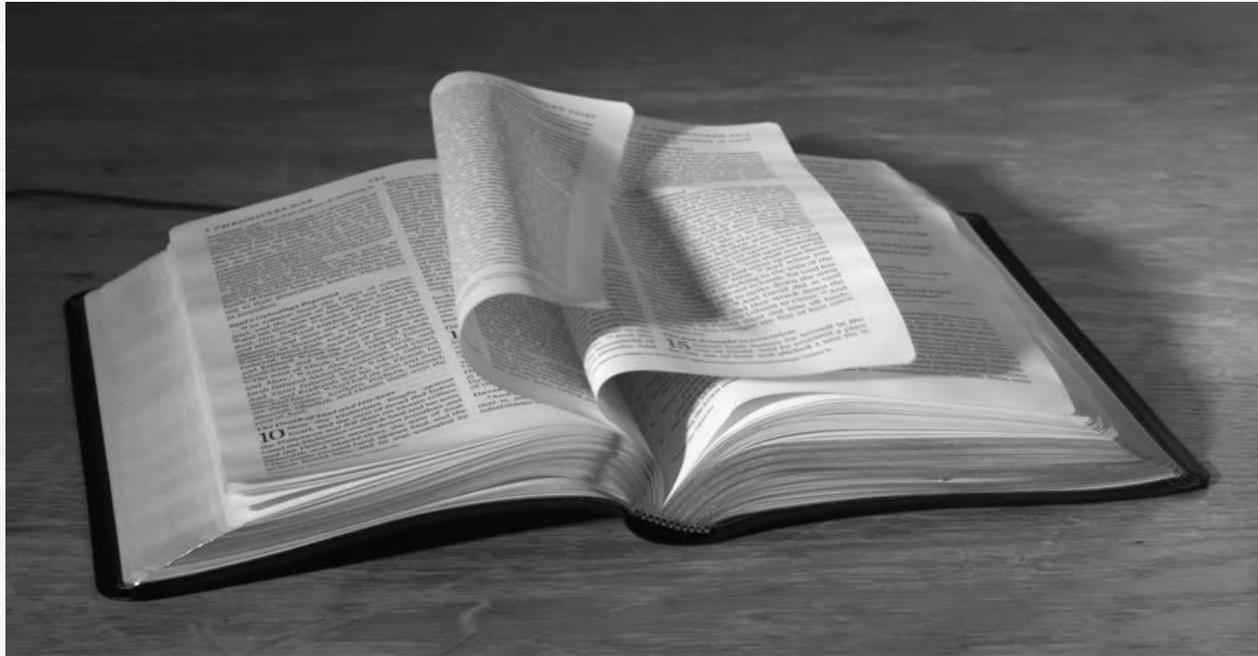
Revelation 1: 16 (NIV)

In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

Isaiah 49: 2 (NIV)

*He made my mouth like a
sharpened sword,*
*in the shadow of his hand he hid
me;*
*he made me into a polished arrow
and concealed me in his quiver.*

Please turn to:
Ephesians 3: 2-6



Ephesians 3: 2-6 (NIV)

Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

Ephesians 3: 2-6 (NIV)

which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

Ephesians 3: 2-6 (NIV)

This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 49: 2 (NIV)

*He made my mouth like a
sharpened sword,*
*in the shadow of his hand he hid
me;*
*he made me into a polished arrow
and concealed me in his quiver.*

Isaiah 49: 3 (NIV)

*He said to me, “You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will display my
splendor.”*

Isaiah 49: 3 (NASB)

*He said to Me, “You are My
Servant, Israel, In whom I will show
My glory.”*

Isaiah 49: 4 (NIV)

*But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for
nothing at all.
Yet what is due me is in the Lord's
hand,
and my reward is with my God."*

Isaiah 49: 5 (NIV)

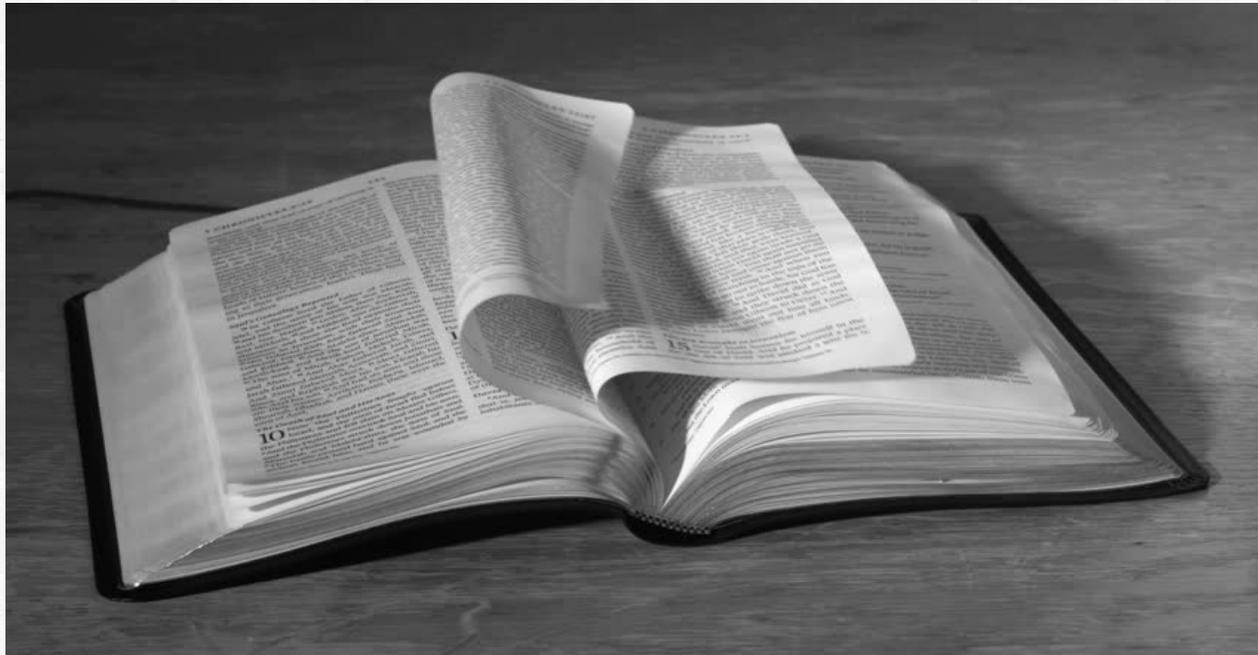
*And now the Lord says –
he who formed me in the womb to
be his servant
to bring Jacob back to him
and gather Israel to himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the
Lord and my God has been my
strength –*

Isaiah 49: 6 (NIV)

he says:

“It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”

Please turn to:
Deuteronomy 30: 1-5



Deuteronomy 30: 1-5 (NIV)

*When all these blessings and curses
I have set before you come on you
and you take them to heart wherever
the Lord your God disperses you
among the nations, and when you
and your children return to the Lord
your God and obey him with all
your heart and with all your soul*

Deuteronomy 30: 1-5 (NIV)

according to everything I command you today, then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where he scattered you. Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens,

Deuteronomy 30: 1-5 (NIV)

from there the Lord your God will gather you and bring you back. He will bring you to the land that belonged to your ancestors, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your ancestors.

Isaiah 49: 6 (NIV)

he says:

“It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”

Isaiah 49: 7 (NIV)

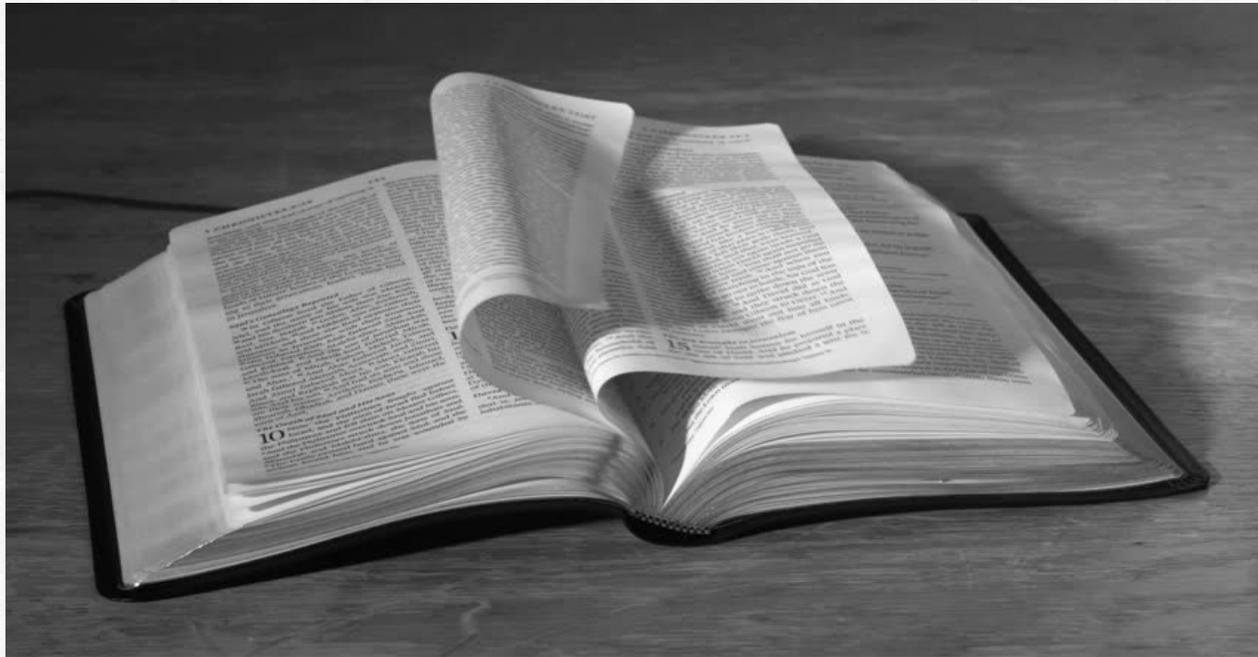
This is what the Lord says – the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel – to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation to the servant of rulers:

“Kings will see you and stand up, princes will see and bow down, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Isaiah 49: 8 (NIV)

*This is what the Lord says:
“In the time of my favor I will
answer you, and in the day of
salvation I will help you;
I will keep you and will make you
to be a covenant for the
people, to restore the land and to
reassign its desolate inheritances,*

Please turn to:
Jeremiah 31: 31-33



Jeremiah 31: 31-33 (NIV)

“The days are coming,” declares
the Lord,
*“when I will make a new
covenant
with the people of Israel
and with the people of Judah.*

Jeremiah 31: 31-33 (NIV)

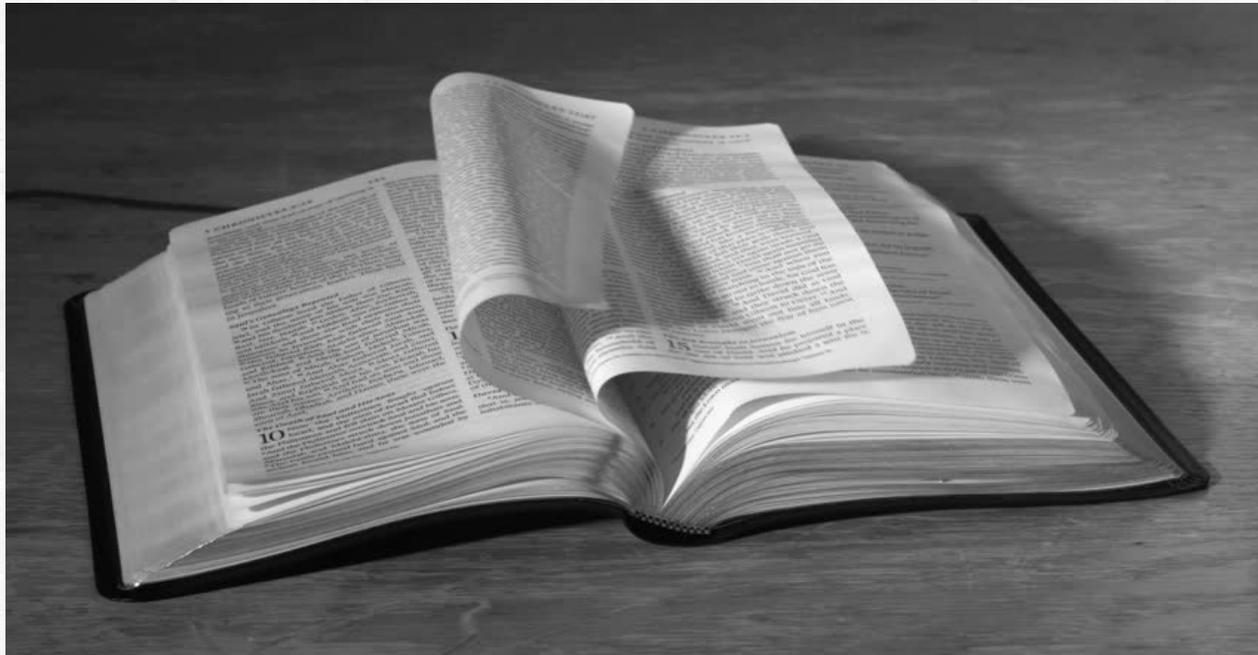
*It will not be like the covenant
I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they broke my covenant,
though I was a husband to them,
declares the Lord.*

Jeremiah 31: 31-33 (NIV)

*“This is the covenant I will make
with the people of Israel
after that time,” declares the
Lord.*

*“I will put my law in their minds
and write it on their hearts.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.*

Please turn to:
Ezekiel 36: 24-36



Ezekiel 36: 24-36 (NIV)

“For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you;

Ezekiel 36: 24-36 (NIV)

I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And

I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God. I will save you from all your uncleanness.

Ezekiel 36: 24-36 (NIV)

I will call for the grain and make it plentiful and will not bring famine upon you. I will increase the fruit of the trees and the crops of the field, so that you will no longer suffer disgrace among the nations because of famine. Then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds,

Ezekiel 36: 24-36 (NIV)

and you will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices. I want you to know that I am not doing this for your sake, declares the Sovereign Lord. Be ashamed and disgraced for your conduct, people of Israel!

“This is what the Sovereign Lord says:

Ezekiel 36: 24-36 (NIV)

“This is what the Sovereign Lord says: On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt. The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it. They will say, “This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden;

Ezekiel 36: 24-36 (NIV)

the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited.” Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the Lord have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the Lord have spoken, and I will do it.’

Just as Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel have prophesied, Israel is a recognized nation – it's a matter of fact.

In the 1980's Israel is back in the Promised Land, exactly as God said she would be, however at this time they are still in unbelief!

Isaiah 49: 9 (NIV)

*to say to the captives, 'Come out,'
and to those in darkness, 'Be free!'*

*"They will feed beside the roads
and find pasture on every barren
hill.*

Israel's long awaited Messiah will return after the 7 year, Great Tribulation Period ends - but the Jews will begin to see at the Mid-Point of the Tribulation Period that Jesus is the Messiah and from that time on, the remnant of Israel, will be saved.

Isaiah 49: 10 (NIV)

*They will neither hunger nor thirst,
nor will the desert heat or the sun
beat down on them.*

*He who has compassion on them
will guide them
and lead them beside springs of
water.*

Isaiah 49: 11-12 (NIV)

*I will turn all my mountains into
roads,
and my highways will be raised
up. See, they will come from afar –
some from the north, some from
the west,
some from the region of Aswan.”*

Isaiah 49: 13 (NIV)

*Shout for joy, you heavens;
rejoice, you earth;
burst into song, you mountains!
For the Lord comforts his people
and will have compassion on his
afflicted ones.*

Isaiah 49: 14-15 (NIV)

*But Zion said, “The Lord has
forsaken me,
the Lord has forgotten me.”*

*“Can a mother forget the baby at
her breast and have no compassion
on the child she has borne?*

*Though she may forget,
I will not forget you!*

Isaiah 49: 16-17 (NIV)

*See, I have engraved you on the
palms of my hands;
your walls are ever before me.
Your children hasten back,
and those who laid you waste
depart from you.*

Isaiah 49: 18 (NIV)

*Lift up your eyes and look around;
all your children gather and come
to you.*

*As surely as I live," declares the
Lord,*

*"you will wear them all as
ornaments;
you will put them on, like a bride.*

Isaiah 49: 19 (NIV)

*“Though you were ruined and made
desolate
and your land laid waste,
now you will be too small for your
people,
and those who devoured you will
be far away.*

Isaiah 49: 20 (NIV)

*The children born during your
bereavement
will yet say in your hearing,
'This place is too small for us;
give us more space to live in.'*

Isaiah 49: 21 (NIV)

Then you will say in your heart,

‘Who bore me these?

I was bereaved and barren;

I was exiled and rejected.

Who brought these up?

I was left all alone,

*but these – where have they come
from?’”*

Isaiah 49: 21 (NIV)

*This is what the Sovereign Lord
says:*

*“See, I will beckon to the nations,
I will lift up my banner to the
peoples;*

*they will bring your sons in their
arms and carry your daughters on
their hips.*

Isaiah 49: 22 (NIV)

*This is what the Sovereign Lord
says:*

*“See, I will beckon to the nations,
I will lift up my banner to the
peoples;*

*they will bring your sons in their
arms and carry your daughters on
their hips.*

Isaiah 49: 23 (NIV)

*Kings will be your foster fathers,
and their queens your nursing
mothers. They will bow down before
you with their faces to the ground;
they will lick the dust at your feet.
Then you will know that I am the
Lord; those who hope in me will not
be disappointed.”*

Isaiah 49: 24-25 (NIV)

*Can plunder be taken from warriors,
or captives be rescued from the
fierce? But this is what the Lord
says: "Yes, captives will be taken
from warriors, and plunder retrieved
from the fierce; I will contend with
those who contend with you, and
your children I will save.*

Isaiah 49: 26 (NIV)

*I will make your oppressors eat their
own flesh;*

*they will be drunk on their own
blood, as with wine.*

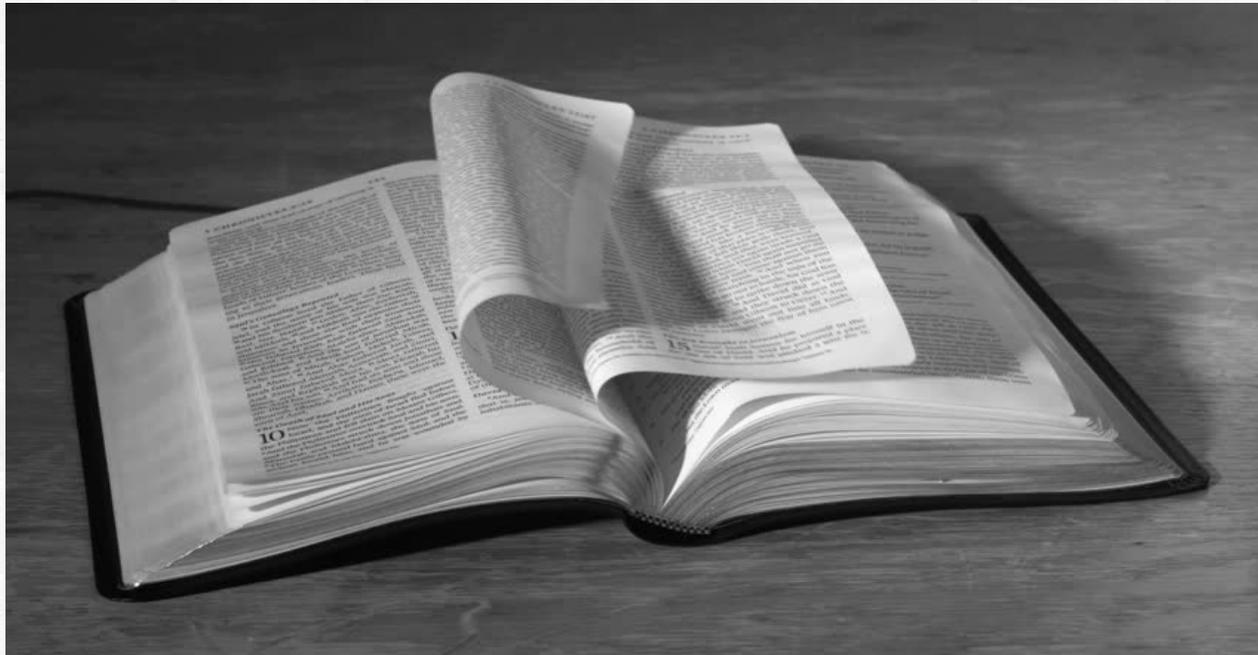
*Then all mankind will know
that I, the Lord, am your Savior,
your Redeemer, the Mighty One
of Jacob.”*

We will Jesus come into
clearer focus in chapter 50!

Isaiah 50: 1 (NIV)

*This is what the Lord says:
“Where is your mother’s certificate
of divorce with which I sent her
away? Or to which of my creditors
did I sell you? Because of your
sins you were sold; because of
your transgressions your mother
was sent away.*

Please turn to:
2 Timothy 3: 1-5



2 Timothy 3: 1-5 (NIV)

But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.

People will be lovers of themselves,

lovers of money, boastful, proud,

abusive, disobedient to their parents,

ungrateful, unholy

2 Timothy 3: 1-5 (NIV)

without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God – having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.

Question

What does it mean to have a form of godliness, but denying it's power?

Question

Do we see any of this in our society today?