

MORNING WORSHIP

8 April 2007

Text: Isaiah 51: 1-3, 12; 2 Corinthians 1

GOD OF ALL COMFORT

(I) A PLEA TO LISTEN TO GOD

*"Listen to Me, you who follow after righteousness;
You who seek the LORD..." Isaiah 51:1a*

*"Listen to Me, My people;
And give ear to Me, O My nation..." Isaiah 51:4*

*"Listen to Me, you who know righteousness,
You people in whose heart is My law..." Isaiah 51:7*

(II) A PROMISE WORTH LISTENING TO

*"The LORD will comfort Zion,
He will comfort all her waste places;
He will make her wilderness like Eden,
And her desert like the garden of the LORD;
Joy and gladness will be found in it,
Thanksgiving and the voice of melody." Isaiah 51:3*

1. The promise of comfort

2. The promise of restoration

3. The promise of joy, gladness, thanksgiving and melody

(III) A PLEA TO LOOK UP TO GOD

*"...Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
And to the hole of the pit from which you were dug." Isaiah 51:1b*

*"Look to Abraham your father,
And to Sarah who bore you;
For I called him alone,
And blessed him and increased him." Isaiah 51:2*

1. Looking at the past

2. Looking at great examples

3. Looking and learning the right lessons

- a) About God's calling
- b) About God's blessing
- c) About God's Person and power

(IV) A PLEA TO LIFT UP EYES OF FAITH

*"Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
And look to the earth beneath..."* **Isaiah 51:6**

1. A consideration of the Salvation that God offers

*"...The heavens will vanish away like smoke,
The earth will grow old like a garment,
And those who dwell in it will die in like manner;
But My salvation will be forever,
And My righteousness will not be abolished."* **Isaiah 51:6**

- a) A salvation that lasts forever
- b) A salvation that is based on God's righteousness which cannot be abolished

2. A consideration of the God who offers the promise of comfort

"I, even I, am He who comforts you..." **Isaiah 51:12**

*"But I am the LORD your God,
Who divided the sea whose waves roared-
The LORD of hosts is His name."* **Isaiah 51:15**