## "Hearing From God"

Isaiah 50 – Part 2 (v.4-5)

## UNDERSTANDING THE MESSAGE OF ISAIAH 50:4-9

- 1. Isaiah 50:4-9 is first and foremost about Jesus Christ, not us.
  - Even though Isaiah lived 800 years before the time of Christ, this text is primarily about Jesus.
  - How do we know this? Because the New Testament explicitly says it is about Jesus.
- 2. Isaiah wrote about a special One who would come in the role of a "Servant."
  - Isaiah 42:1: "Behold, my servant" Heb. עבד 'ebed "servant" → a special leader of God's people -Isaiah 42:1-9 are the words of God the Father about the coming 'Servant.'
  - In the New Testament, the Gospel of Matthew (12:17-21) quotes Isaiah 42:1-3 and says it is about Jesus.
- 3. Isaiah described the One who would come not only as a 'Servant' but as a 'Suffering Servant.' Isaiah 53:3-6
  - In the New Testament, the Gospel of Matthew (8:17) quotes Isaiah 53:4 and says it is about Jesus.
  - (See also Matthew 3:3; 4:14; 13:14; 15:7; John 12:38, 39, 41)
  - Isaiah 50:4-9 is another example of the 'Suffering Servant'
- 4. \*Sometimes\* when Isaiah uses the title "servant" he is not talking about Jesus, but the community of Israel.
  - Isaiah contrasts the individual 'Suffering Servant' (Jesus) with the community 'servant' the people of God.

Individual Servant is FAITHFUL

Community servant is NOT FAITHFUL

-Trusts in God

-Often does not trust in God.

-Believes in God's love for Him

-Often does not believe in God's love for them.

-Looks to God as a refuge

-Looks to other things/nations as a refuge

-Will suffer for obedience

-Will suffer for dis-obedience

→ While Isaiah 50:4-9 is first and foremost about Jesus Christ, it is also about followers of Jesus.

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD. v.4

- 1. The SOURCE: The LORD GOD has given me...
- **2. The TOOL:** ...the tongue of those who are taught...
- **3. The MINISTRY:** ...that I may know how to sustain with a word...
- **4.** The TARGET: ...him who is weary.

## THE PRIORITY OF HEARING FROM GOD. v.4-5

- 1. It is a taught tongue. v.4
  - ...the tongue of those who are taught...
- 2. The taught tongue comes from a <u>listening</u> ear. v.4b
  - Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.
  - Throughout the Old Testament, God's people were called to listen to God. "Thus saith the Lord" (100's of X's)
  - The Shema (Deuteronomy 6:4-5): Hear, O Israel...
  - In the New Testament, Jesus repeated the phrase, "he who has ears to hear, let him hear."
- 3. The taught tongue comes from a listening ear which listens morning by morning. v.4b
- → Hearing from God is essential because there are lots of other "words" that are competing for your heart and mind.
  - 1 John 4:1-4