



Isaiah 50
Isaiah: For the Questions



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

- we have lots of questions for God
- the Bible is full of God's questions for us
- Socratic method
- God's 4 questions for us in Isaiah 50:
 - 1~ Where is your certificate of divorce?
 - 2~ Is my hand short?
 - 3~ Who has a case against me?
 - 4~ Who trusts the Lord?



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

Isaiah 50:1~2

Thus says the Lord, “Where is the certificate of divorce by which I have sent your mother away? Or to whom of My creditors did I sell you? Behold, you were sold for your iniquities, and for your transgressions your mother was sent away. “Why was there no man when I came? When I called, why was there none to answer? Is My hand so short that it cannot ransom? Or have I no power to deliver? Behold, I dry up the sea with My rebuke, I make the rivers a wilderness; Their fish stink for lack of water And die of thirst.



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

- Where is your certificate of divorce?
- they sense their distance from God, and they blame him for pulling away
- dual truths that feed each other
 - I pull away from God in sin
 - that distance causes damage in my relationship with God



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

- sin causes me to believe things about God that aren't true
- truth is that God never gave a certificate
- truth is we are accusing God and his love of failing
 - do you sense your distance from me?
 - what does that reveal about you?



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

Isaiah 50:2-7

“Why was there no man when I came? When I called, why was there none to answer? Is My hand so short that it cannot ransom? Or have I no power to deliver? Behold, I dry up the sea with My rebuke, I make the rivers a wilderness; Their fish stink for lack of water and die of thirst. “I clothe the heavens with blackness and make sackcloth their covering.”



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

The Lord God has given Me the tongue of disciples, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple. The Lord God has opened My ear; and I was not disobedient Nor did I turn back. I gave My back to those who strike Me, and My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; I did not cover My face from humiliation and spitting. For the Lord God helps Me, Therefore, I am not disgraced; Therefore, I have set My face like flint, and I know that I will not be ashamed.



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

- is my hand short= is my arm too short/incapable of reaching you?
- God's hands and arms
 - hold back the Red Sea
 - write on a wall
 - carry you at all times
 - stretch out and take your sin and die for them



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

- not sentimental love or power
- our response is to set our face like flint in perseverance
- where do you feel like failure is imminent, like God doesn't care and can't save?
- set your face like flint (in faith)



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

Isaiah 50:8-9

He who vindicates Me is near; who will contend with Me? Let us stand up to each other; who has a case against Me? Let him draw near to Me. Behold, the Lord God helps Me; who is he who condemns Me Behold, they will all wear out like a garment; The moth will eat them.



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

- “Instead of asking Me, you should be asking yourself these questions:”
 - who could possibly stop me?
 - what causes you to doubt, falter, get flustered?
 - who are you questioning?



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

Isaiah 50:10~11

Who is among you that fears the Lord, that obeys the voice of His servant, that walks in darkness and has no light? Let him trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God. Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who encircle yourselves with firebrands, walk in the light of your fire and among the brands you have set ablaze. This you will have from My hand: You will lie down in torment.



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

- do you fear the Lord?
- servile fear~ toward a cruel master who comes with a whip
- filial fear~ toward a parent that you love and respect and want to please
- fear of God is a mixture of awe and affection
- what encourages perseverance?
- what causes you to call on God to make you like Christ?



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

- the voice of his Servant= the Bible; the Words of Christ
- maybe your questions for God are really projections of your questions about yourself:
 - your refusal to live sincerely in the full light of Scripture
 - a false reliance on being a good law keeper
- living without a reverence for God is a light that can't reveal or keep you warm



A N S W E R I N G G O D ' S C A L L

- What is your name?
- What are you doing here?
- What are you looking for?
- Who do you say that I am?
- Do you want to get well?
- Do you know what I've done for you?