

LIGHT FOR THE NATIONS



Isaiah 49: 6

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*Indeed He says,
'It is too small a thing that
You should be My Servant
To raise up the tribes of Jacob,
And to restore the preserved ones of Israel;
I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles,
That You should be
My salvation to the ends of the earth.'*

Jesus' life, ministry, death, and resurrection embody the dual aspects of this prophecy: the restoration of Israel and the extension of God's salvation to the Gentiles. From the very beginning of His ministry, Jesus' light shone in ways that transcended ethnic, social, and geographical boundaries.

In Luke 2:32, Simeon declares of the infant Jesus, ***a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.*** Throughout His public ministry, Jesus repeatedly reached beyond the confines of Israel. His interactions with the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:9-26) and His healing of the centurion's servant (Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10) demonstrate that God's salvation through Christ is not limited by ethnic boundaries. The cleansing of lepers, the forgiveness of sinners, and His engagement with Gentiles and marginalized people show that the Servant's mission is universal, touching the entirety of humanity.

Christ is identified as the light to the Gentiles: Acts 13:47, *For so the Lord has commanded us: 'I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, that you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.'* In Romans 15:8-12, Paul interprets the Servant's mission as encompassing both Jews and Gentiles, quoting Isaiah 11:10 and Psalm 18:49 to show that Christ fulfills God's plan of inclusion and glorification: *Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name.* Jesus Christ functions as the instrument through which God's light penetrates all human darkness, uniting people into a single body of faith.

In Matthew 28:18-20, the Great Commission extends this mission universally: *All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations....* Jesus Christ's light is historical, transformative, and continuing. We are therefore called to participate in God's redemptive work.

Jesus is the incarnate Light itself: *"That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world"* (John 1:9). His illumination extends beyond cultural or geographic boundaries.

Jesus Christ's life and ministry embody the restoration of Israel and the extension of God's salvation to the Gentiles.

Prayer points:

1. That people in every culture and nation will receive the light of Christ.
2. That believers from every background may be united as one body in Christ.



John 1:9



Soli Deo Gloria – to God alone be the glory!
Rev. Luke Haisa