

Wake up, Wake up, O Jerusalem!
You will be Set Free from Captivity:
A Picture of the Believer Being Freed from Sin and Death
Isaiah 51:17–52:12

1. *Jerusalem must wake up and rise from its suffering of God's judgment*

- a. The city had no leaders to guide the people
- b. The city had suffered a double calamity
 - Desolation and destruction
 - Famine and bloodshed
- c. The city's young men had been killed and piled up in the streets
- d. The afflicted city was challenged to heed God's promise
 - He defends His people (the redeemed), 12
 - He would remove the cup of judgment — His discipline — from His people
 - He would transfer the cup of judgment over to the persecutors
 - He would make the redeemed victorious over all enemies

17 Awake, awake! Rise up, Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the hand of the LORD the cup of his wrath, you who have drained to its dregs the goblet that makes people stagger.

18 Among all the children she bore there was none to guide her; among all the children she reared there was none to take her by the hand.

19 These double calamities have come upon you — who can comfort you? — ruin and destruction, famine and sword — who can console you?

20 Your children have fainted; they lie at every street corner, like antelope caught in a net. They are filled with the wrath of the LORD, with the rebuke of your God.

21 Therefore hear this, you afflicted one, made drunk, but not with wine.

22 This is what your Sovereign LORD says, your God, who defends his people: “See, I have taken out of your hand the cup that made you stagger; from that cup, the goblet of my wrath, you will never drink again.

23 I will put it into the hands of your tormentors, who said to you, ‘Fall prostrate that we may walk on you.’ And you made your back like the ground, like a street to be walked on.”

CHAPTER 52

2. *Jerusalem must wake up and be clothed with splendour and strength*

- a. Because it is holy:
The impure and godless
would no longer enter
- b. Because it is to arise from the
dust: Be enthroned
and freed from captivity
- c. Because it is to be redeemed
without money —
freely, by grace
- d. Because God's people
had suffered so much
 - Had been enslaved by Egypt
and oppressed by Assyria
 - Were now in bondage
and exiled to Babylon:
Being persecuted and mocked
and having to hear God's name
blasphemed all day long
- e. Because God's people would
know the LORD's name:
Because He would fulfil
His promise of redemption. 3

3. *The city of Jerusalem must wake up and listen to the watchmen's proclamation*

- a. The good news of peace
and salvation, of God's reign

- 1 Awake, awake, Zion,
clothe yourself with strength!
Put on your garments of splendour,
Jerusalem, the holy city.
The uncircumcised and defiled
will not enter you again.
- 2 Shake off your dust;
rise up, sit enthroned, Jerusalem.
Free yourself from the chains on your neck,
Daughter Zion, now a captive.
- 3 For this is what the LORD says:
“You were sold for nothing,
and without money you will be redeemed.”
- 4 For this is what the Sovereign LORD says:
“At first my people went down to Egypt to live;
lately, Assyria has oppressed them.
- 5 “And now what do I have here?”
declares the LORD.
“For my people have been taken away
for nothing, and those who rule them mock, ”
declares the LORD. “And all day long
my name is constantly blasphemed.
- 6 Therefore my people will know my name;
therefore in that day they will know
that it is I who foretold it. Yes, it is I.”
- 7 How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!”

<p>b. The good news of the LORD's return to Zion (Jerusalem)</p> <p>c. The good news of the LORD's comfort and redemption</p> <p>d. The good news that God will destroy the enemies of His people</p> <p>4. <i>Depart, depart!</i> <i>Flee the captivity of Babylon:</i> <i>A picture of spiritual separation</i></p> <p>a. The charge: Not to touch any unclean thing, to be pure</p> <p>b. The promise: Would not be threatened, forced to flee</p> <p>1) God would lead the way</p> <p>2) God would also be their rear guard, protect their back</p>	<p>8 Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes.</p> <p>9 Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.</p> <p>10 The LORD will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.</p> <p>11 Depart, depart, go out from there! Touch no unclean thing! Come out from it and be pure, you who carry the articles of the LORD's house.</p> <p>12 But you will not leave in haste or go in flight; for the LORD will go before you, the God of Israel will be your rear guard.</p>
--	---