### Isaiah

## Chapter 50

[Editor Note: The text says that much of the following is not being spoken by God, but by ‘the Lord,’ who communicated God’s words. So, we have not capitalized the personal pronouns where we think he was speaking.]   
  
1And then the Lord said this to me:  
  
 ‘What kind of divorce certificate is this,  
 By which I sent you back to your mother…  
 Yes, whom did I owe that I’ve sold you?  
  
 ‘{Look!} You were sold because of your sins,  
 And I sent you home to your mother  
 Because of your lawless ways!  
  
 2‘When I was there, was there no man?  
 Yet, when I called you, no one replied.  
  
 ‘And now, aren’t my hands strong enough  
 To rescue you and return you…  
 Am I unable to save you?  
  
 ‘{Look!} I can scold the seas and wipe them away,  
 And I can desolate rivers,  
 Leaving their fish without water,  
 So they will die in their thirst!  
  
 3‘With darkness, I can clothe skies,  
 And wrap them in robes made of sackcloth!’  
  
 4‘Jehovah gave me a tongue to instruct  
 And a knowledge of when to speak the right words.  
 Morning after morning, He stood there by me  
 And gave me ears, so I’d listen…  
 5[He] opened my ears to instructions,  
 And I didn’t resist Him or argue.  
  
 6‘So my back, I gave to be whipped,  
 And my jaws, [I left open] to slaps.  
 Then to shame those who were spitting on me,  
 I did not turn my face.  
  
 7‘For the Lord Jehovah is my helper,  
 And for this, I won’t let them shame me.  
 Then I set my face as solid as rock  
 So that I would not bring [Him] dishonor.  
 8For the One who’s declared me righteous is close…  
 And by Him alone, am I judged.  
  
 ‘So, which [of you] would now judge me?  
 Let him [stand up and] oppose me!  
 Yes, who is the one who would judge me?  
 Let him come and resist me!  
  
 9‘{Look!} Since Jehovah will come to my aid,  
 Who is able to harm me?  
 {Look!} For like an old robe, such ones will wear out,  
 And then they’ll be eaten by moths!  
  
 10‘Who among you has fear of Jehovah?  
 If you do; obey the voice of His servant!  
 So, may those who travel in darkness  
 (Those for whom there has been no light)  
 Yield to the name of the Lord,  
 And lean upon The God for support!  
  
 11‘{Look!} Although you’ve lit a fire and helped the flames grow,  
 You were then [drawn] to its light…  
 Towards the very same flame that you kindled!  
 And because of me, this has happened,  
 So in anguish, you’ll spend the rest of your nights!’