Bible Gateway

I absolutely love the way that the whole Bible can be summed up in the Book of Isaiah! I remember when I was going through my lowest point in my adult life in the years 2008-2012, the LORD impressed upon my spirit to read passages of the book of Isaiah out loud. It was then that I got some of the biggest revelations that delivered me out of the turmoil I was in by giving me a deeper revelation of who Jesus was in my life.

It was an amazing breakthrough and subsequent transformation! To deliver me out of the state that I was in personally, professionally, and spiritually, I needed a fully complete transformation. What I learned is that God became not only my Savior, but during these years, He became my MASTER! When I met him in my car was years earlier, He became my LOVER back then in my 30's and delivered me

NOTES I met nim in my car was years earlier, He became my LOVER back then in my 30's and delivered me from the club scene and looking for love drama. But in my 40's, God became my M-A-S-T-E-R but I didn't realize it until godly transformation became my way of life! -Dr. Merle Ray 4/30/2023

🕜 <u>Isaiah 49:24</u>-26

11/22/2018 This is mighty good news for me! This verse says that some of us have been taken captive lawfully, meaning we did it to ourselves; we put ourselves in debt; we removed our own borders or boundaries, and that's why we were taken captive. But God says in this verse that even when we fail and end up as captives, He will deliver us from the terrible and fight with those who take us away captive. That's great news for me since I can think of many times I put myself into compromising positions. But God!

November 22 at 3:31 PM | KJV Delete

🗹 <u>Isaiah 54:1</u>

ISAIAH 54 - Declare out loud! November 16, 2018 - Brought tears to my eyes as I declared out loud, believed and received in Jesus Christ Mighty Name! The word I received was: We need to learn how to rest in the peace that God, our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ, and The Holy Spirit has given us. We, even me, we are still working so hard trying to at times see the blessing of the Lord, when we need to understand how to rest in the Lord to see His promises. Sprinkle the seed of the Word and let the seed grow by the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe God's word and live like we believe. Make our decisions based on a soul that is healed and wounds, not living amongst the tombs. A soul that is healed from wounds has been transformed and the tombs that we once laid upon, have been turned into diamonds, sapphires, gems, and pearls. For I do not remember the rejection and abandonment anymore, today I walk in the treasure of the Lord, and I wear fine fabric covered in sparkling diamonds, rubies, and pearls. I am dressed as a Queen, and I am a kept woman! Sing thou o' barren, thou that didn't not bear, break forth into singing, and cry aloud! Reason #3 of why I declare Isaiah out loud; I lived it!!! I declared out loud and the voice of heaven heard me, and rescued me! God gave me my salvation, and He established me as His!

November 16 at 11:47 AM | KJV Delete

🕜 <u>Isaiah 53:1</u>

Isaiah 53 - the whole chapter HOW THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST PURCHASED OUR TRANSFORMATION The manifested tangible work of the Blood of Jesus Christ is revealed in

these Scriptures. There is measurable Glory of Him in our lives as a result of the transformation that Jesus went through. Look at the transformation of Christ being revealed as the former state in verses 2-9, and His future state, which is our current state now in verses 10-end. Notice the indicators of Christ's work that is tangible: 1) In His former state, Jesus Christ was rejected of men, acquainted with sorrows, carried our griefs, smitten of God, and afflicted. Wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon him/ and with his stripes, I am today in my current state - HEALED!

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🗹 Isaiah 52:10

November 16, 2018 Isaiah 52:7-13 This verse resonated with me yesterday powerfully as I read it on 11/15/2018 before I went in to work in the morning. In the past, I read this verse and thought about my pastors and leaders in the Body of Christ, preachers who I had heard over the years. But when I read it yesterday, I saw something different. As I read this verse, I lifted up my boss at work and those in high places who God would use to exalt me. I saw those who would be used to help me be promoted and receive into my hands my \$280k salary that I have been believing God for. So, therefore, I began to declare, "How beautiful upon the mountains of Harris County government are the feet of him that brings good tidings to Merle Ray, that published peace to Merle Ray; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Merle Ray, Thy God reigneth!" And what I saw when I got in to work was that when I went to go talk to my boss about something in the past he had not stood firm, and he had threw me under the bus, but that yesterday, he stood with me, pronounced good tidings, and let me work in peace. I stand as watchmen with Carmella and Kimberly at work. We believe God and have prayed Isaiah together before, and seen the blessing of the Lord move people and situations in our favor at work mightily. We continue to pray, stand, and watch for these. This is what I see in verses 8-9. In verse 10, I am reminded about the arm of the Lord in Isaiah 51:5 which says, "5 My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the people; the isles shall wait upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust." In today's verse Isaiah 52:10 Isaiah declares the arms of the LORD are not just open to me personally as in chapter 51, but the arms of the LORD are open to my nation, other nations of people, and all the ends of the earth." Wow! What a powerful God that He should open up His arms of righteousness to all the world, and not open up destruction to us instead, because He is a holy God and we have not been holy. But He has not judged us according to our sin; instead, He has judged us according to His Love, and opened to us His arms of righteousness! So Isaiah says, "Knowing this, depart from me, go live your blessed life, and touch no unclean thing. Don't start living like you are not blessed, like you don't belong to the Lord. You bear the vessels of the Lord, so live like you know who you are!" In verse 12, he says, "For you don't live life running or fighting with strife and haste, but the LORD God goes before you, and HE will be your reward wherever you go in life and whatever you do. So don't live like you have no God!" Verse 13: My interpretations: God is speaking. He says, "My servant shall deal prudently. He shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high." He's talking about Jesus Christ. We know that God gave us Jesus Christ on the earth, and placed His Spirit, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Jesus Christ into us! So we shall also deal prudently, we shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high onto the mountains and the places where God has placed us on earth. And verse 14 says, As many were astonished at Jesus, so shall many be

astonished at us because of the work that Christ has done. The rest of verse 14-15 is a reflection upon Christ Jesus: his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men: so shall he spring many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider. When the work of the Holy Spirit, the dumanis power that resurrected Jesus from the dead works within us and around us, others in high places on our jobs, in our communities, cities, and nations shall shut their mouths at the work that God has done in and amongst us, for that which they had not known about God before, they shall see and now they shall consider because of what they have seen and heard in the work of Christ in our lives. Verse 14: God is speaking to Jesus "The Spirit of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit within me causes me

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🕜 <u>Isaiah 52:1</u>

ISAIAH 52: In these verses, I saw myself as stepping up stairs with my royal ballroom gown on lined with sparking diamonds and emblems and fine delicate fabrics like the actress in one of my favorite movies, One Night with the King. The gown is ruby red and tightly fit, covered with sparking gold embellishings. I see the hem of the dress and I take each step up the royal stairs.

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🕜 <u>Isaiah 50:10</u>

This is where I was every morning in 2008-2011. It seemed like the whole world was against me. My husband had gone out awhoring, leaving God and me, with two young babies; he was in and out of prison. My daughter was gone, having rebelled and getting pregnant; she was now out on her own trying to make it, but making poor choices with men, too. I was working my own business, but wasn't making enough to save my house and make it in my household. I was crying out to God every morning, noon, and night. I was guiet otherwise. People didn't see me as a mess; they saw me working and doing brilliant work. Inside, I was screaming out to God, "Help Me!" I quoted verse 7 a lot and this whole chapter. Today, 11/15/2018 and 11/16/2018, I notice these verses more closely: 10 and 11. Why? Because 7 years ago, I was in the down and out situations of life. Today, I am free and assisting other women who are in the down and out situations of their lives, and verses 10 and 11 stick out to me as I prepare to mentor, coach, and share with them how to walk in The Glory Light. The Word of God says, "Who among you are lovers of God, you sincerely seek to love and obey him, but you find yourselves now surrounded by darkness and it appears to you that you don't see the manifested blessings of God around you, and you only see darkness?" He says, "Trust in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and stay upon His GOD." Verse 11: What I got out of this verse is that the Word of God is speaking to my adversity. This is Reason #2 why I believe that God led me to this book, Isaiah to read out loud. He trained me to speak to my adversity. I was led in 2009-2011 to read the book of Isaiah out loud, so I declared this Word repeatedly. "Behold, all ye that kindle a fire, that compass yourselves about with sparks: you better walk in the

light of your fire, and in the sparks that ye have kindled." What God is declaring is that my adversaries, all of those who are contending with me, fighting against me, and pronouncing darkness upon me, better walk in the light of their fire and in the sparks that they have started. And, I absolutely love this solemn last statement that the Lord told me to repeat after Him in solitude in quietness in grace and in His style: "This shall ye have of mine hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow." My soul leaped for joy! I felt like it was said in my spirit, "It's a wrap!"

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Isaiah 50:1

ISAIAH 50 - The LORD speaks as a husband. He says, "I have never left you; you left me." "When I came home, a man was in your bed." "When I called you, you wouldn't answer." "If you were in trouble, did you think that I wouldn't be able to save you out of it?" "I can get mad, speak one word, and an entire sea will dry up all its water. Why would you not think that if someone was bothering you, that I wouldn't answer?" "I make the heavens cry and mourn for years. Why would you think I can't move for you?" KEY VERSE: 4 The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he "wakeneth mine ear" to hear as one learned. I got out of this verse that this is one of the reasons why the Lord GOD put me in Isaiah to read out loud during the time of The Glory Light when I was seeking to come out of the down and out period of my life in my mid-40's.

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🗹 Isaiah 33:1

THE FEAR OF THE LORD & PAYBACK TO THE BULLIES: This chapter is speaking to those who bullied you. It calls them out and declares the judgment of our God upon their heads. They shall be paid back as God sends the caterpillars and locusts to run upon them as they preyed upon you. Key Verse: 5,6, The Lord is exalted; for he dwelleth on high: he hat filled Zion with judgment and righteousness. And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the Lord is his treasure.

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🕜 <u>Isaiah 51:4</u>

Light: Whenever I see the word, light, in Scripture, since 2009 in getting The Glory Light of Jesus Heals Your Soul, teaching by Katie Souza, Expected End Ministries, I have learned to pay attention. The LORD used that teaching to transform my life, and I have seen miraculous transformation from it. Therefore, the word, light, in this Scripture caught my attention. Isaiah 51:4 says to me that God is saying this: "Listen to me, my people, my children of nations, for my law has proceeded from me, and I have made my judgment to rest as a "light" for the

people. From my experiences with God from salvation to now, I have learned that God has "fully accepted" us and covered our iniquities with the Blood of Jesus Christ. Had it not been for Christ, we would not be "fully accepted" by God today. We would not have the unprecedented favor from the LORD God Almighty that we have today. To me, this book of the Bible, Isaiah, carries so many extremely valuable wonderful magnificent revelations of Jesus Christ from God, the Father, from the Old Testament to the New. What do I mean by that? Well, for starters, it is the only book of the Bible that has 66 chapters! Do you think that's coincidence? I don't think so, because even in the solar system, God has been precise. Men didn't just happen to cut up the Bible into chapters and verses that form the canon of Scripture. I think that God had something to do with it. And for some reason, in 2009 when I was going through my first "Down and Out" period as an adult in 2003, Isaiah was the book of the Bible that God led me to read out loud every morning for a long time, and I started standing on the Word of God from Isaiah. At the time, the Lord had allowed me to get the teaching, The Glory Light of Jesus Heals Your Soul by Katie Souza, and I saw God move in my life. He got my attention! Little did I know when I started reading Isaiah out loud in my prayer closet, that on one of her CDs, the preacher, Katie Souza, was sharing that she was led to do the same thing. Later, in 2014, when I was challenged with severe trials on the job that God had assigned me back in corporate (government), I had to stand on the Word from Isaiah again, and that is how I and the women of God that were with me in corporate overcame the enemy that had festered that work environment. The Lord exposed, revealed, and in one way or another, removed 21 people who were being used by the enemy to torment us in the environment. Some scholars think that it's just coincidence that Isaiah has 66 books, but I don't think so. If you are ever in extreme warfare and you seek out God intimately, you may end up in the book of Isaiah, and you'll see why. To me, in a prophetic discourse, the prophet explains the demonic kingdoms and their strategies and purposes to get God's people off course and their plans to take what is rightfully ours away from us. That's why, in my opinion, it was hard for me to understand the book of Isaiah until I was actually in those situations. I found myself in 2009 living in the book, and I didn't even know it. Things that were going on in my life, were similar in my opinion to what the prophet Isaiah was describing in the book. The "Down and Out" period in my life started back in 2003 when I left my 6-figure job in a Fortune 500 company because I became offended, to start my own business and go into what I thought would become full-time ministry. Guess what? I was 40 years old. I didn't know it at the time, but I later found out that the # 40 was meaningful. After seeking God like water in the desert, I found out that the number 40 represented the words, "dry period leading to revival and renewal." All of what I just shared, came from just one word from God - the word, LIGHT! I want you to get to the point where from now on, every time you hear the word, LIGHT, you think of the revelation of JESUS CHRIST! Every time you think of the word, tomb, you think of LIGHT! Every time you think of grave, you think of the Blood of JESUS!

November 11 at 4:35 PM | KJV Delete

🗹 Isaiah 51:5

You see, humans have no knowledge that they are lost in the world without God. We don't know that we are in need of a Savior when we are born. We don't even know whether or not God exists until we come of age and begin to look around us and wonder. There was nothing that we could do to get God to fully accept us as human beings, because we are totally

clueless to His existence until the Holy Spirit begins to draw us in to seek Him. We have no reason to be fully accepted, when we didn't even know that we were born in darkness. That's the beauty of God, in that He fully accepted us as righteous; His salvation has gone forth from Him to us, and that is how He's chosen to judge us through righteousness, and not through our deeds and ignorance of Him. That's what the Holy Spirit does, begin to hover over us and draw us in. Righteousness is simply, God not judging us by our ignorance of Him, and not judging us by our deeds, but drawing us in by the Holy Spirit, and judging us through what CHRIST has done for us!!! As my Pastor, Dr. Ramsom Mumba, would say, "Isn't that good?" Because get this - Ignorant or not, God is still God! If you are a baby just born - or an Adult senior living to be 199 years old - God is still God! Whether you Know him or not - God is still God! What do I mean by that? There are Laws that are at work around you, whether you believe they exist or not. There are the lower laws - the laws of government made by man, and there are higher laws: the Laws of Gravity, The Laws of Physics, and the ultimate The Laws of God!!! Look around you - at the stars, the moon, the sky, it exists whether you understand how it got here on not- God is the One who put it there! Whether we believe these laws or not - we are judged by them! And that's what God is saying to us in verse 4 of this chapter, (Read it) God says: "I will make my judgment,..." that right there tells you that there is something real as God's judgment. But the beautiful part comes after that, He says,..."to rest." How is the Judgment of God going to rest? He tells us,..."As a Light" of the People. We all know that Light is Jesus Christ, the Light of the World! You see, if we recognized the state that we are born into having no experience with God, or no knowledge of Him, then we would know what God is saying to us in verse 5, when He says, "My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth," And look at what He says next, ..."and mine arm shall they trust!" God's grace is: God giving us His unmerited favor although we did nothing to deserve it. Turn and tell your neighbor, "You're smarter than you think." "God has made you a Game Changer!" "You ARE a Winner!" "Through JESUS CHRIST!"

November 11 at 3:36 PM | KJV Delete

🕜 <u>Isaiah 51:7</u>

Today, I want to talk to THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE: *Executives IN TRAINING who are about to give up *Aspiring Employees who are distraught *Those who are being oppressed in business or in personal life *Those saints who are tired, burnt out, and stressed *Those who are not in a comfortable place right now, AND those who are what I would say are none of that, but you are the average well-adjusted American citizen who is contented satisfied waking up going about out regular day-to-day duties, but still not fulfilled - not living a fully engaged life doing what we love to do, what we are called to do, and reaping the rewards of it. You who are Game Changers! This is a word of Motivation. But, it is not just motivation; it is also a word of Application; But, it is not just application; it is also a word of Salvation; But, itis not just Salvation; it is also a word of Iransformation; But, it is not just Transformation; it isalso a word of Endurance; But, it is not just Endurance, it is also a word of Restoration and Renewal. In other words, if you apply what I'm telling you today, you can literally turn your world upside down, and take your life any where you want it to go. You can literally become a REAL GAME-CHANGER!!!

NOTE: The first letter underlined in red! What do the letters spell out? I didn't see that until today! 4-30-2023 November 11 at 2:28 PM | KJV <u>Delete</u>

🗹 Isaiah 51:6

This verse for me, sums up the meaning of LIFE ITSELF: "Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein die in like manner: BUT MY SALVATION SHALL BE FOR EVER, and MY RIGHTEOUSNESS SHALL NOT BE ABOLISHED!"

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🗹 Isaiah 51:1

Instead of looking at the tombs (grave site, point of pain, wounds) look unto "the rock from whence you were hewn." That rock from which you were carved is Jesus Christ, the chief cornerstone (Isaiah 28:16, "Therefore this says the Lord God: 'Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation.'")

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🕜 <u>Isaiah 51:3</u>

Sunday, 11-11-2018 We, the children of God, are comparable to Zion today. The Lord says, He will comfort all her "waste" places, the places where we have been to say the least, "discomfitted." God will comfort us! The word, discomfitted, means: defeated in battle, frustrated, THWARTED - plans are thrown aback; in a state of perplexity and embarrassment: DISCONCERTED: confused, embarrassed, or upset. For those of us who have been discomfitted, the LORD says, "Listen to me!" O my nation. Read the rest of Isaiah 51 and stop whenever you see a word that speaks to you, or touches your spirit. Watch, what happens next as God's Holy Spirit begins to minister to you.

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Proverbs 28:20

December 7 at 10:53 AM | Delete

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Isaiah 10:27 This is that day! These are the words Pastor Mumba gave us last night. It was the first time I'd been to church on a WEDNESDAY night in years! I'd dropped out of church, but not out of the Body of Christ, and not out of His presence, His passion, and not out of His

purpose for my life. I am engaged! I'm in a relationship with God. And I'm taking everything that heaven has for me.

December 6 at 9:18 AM | Delete

🗹 Acts 17:23

To the tune of William McCardell's song, "I can't live without you." Lord, I live. I live inside you. Cause I was created to live in your presence. I breathe. I move. All of my life is full of you. I need you to live. I need you to breathe. I live in side you. I must live inside you. See next verse of Acts 17.

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When you know Him, you can trust Him. When you trust Him, you can get to know Him better day by day - because you get to know Him more - Like being in a relationship. But, I'm getting ahead of myself, go back to the scripture. Who is this God that I live in? What is His power? And for what purpose did He give this power to me? Why does God keep telling me to change the words of William McCardell's song in my head? Why is this song keep ringing over and over in my spirit? Then the Lord brought me to Acts 17 and I began to write this as He gave it to me.

December 6 at 9:13 AM | Delete

The Lord our God is one. I am one with Him. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: and me - 4 persons in one because I am hidden in Christ! I am in Him and He is in me.What a powerful and profound statement! God is working on me this morning. I am shedding tears of joy; He's dealing with me about several situations in regards to work and even my personal relationships - or lack of one. He's revealing Himself to me in this scripture. How beautiful God is to give me this insight. He's helping me to get the answers I needed. I can trust him because I know him. He has never failed to love me and to show his love for me. That means the situation bothering me at work now and the situation bothering me in my personal life is not to worry me. Continue to focus on how he loves me and how I love him and how I love others. Against such, there is no law. The kingdom, the power, and the glory is mine. He has placed it in my hands. His glory surrounds me like a shield. I am designed to win! I prayed in the Spirit.I got the victory.

December 6 at 9:12 AM | Delete



Verses 23-28 I was created to live in presence, power, and the purpose of God. Who is this God? What is this power? What is this purpose? OMG! I'm so excited about knowing Him. Some worship Him and don't know WHO they worship. Paul saw the same thing in his day. He said it in verse 23 of Acts chapter 17.

December 4 at 7:51 AM | NIV Delete

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Isaiah 49:24-26 this year 2023 reflecting back on November 2018 and how far God has brought me. Selah!

11/22/2018

This is mighty good news for me! This verse says that some of us have been taken captive lawfully, meaning we did it to ourselves; we put ourselves in debt; we removed our own borders or boundaries, and that's why we were taken captive. But God says in this verse that even when we fail and end up as captives, He will deliver us from the terrible and fight with those who take us away captive. That's great news for me since I can think of many times I put myself into compromising positions. But God!

04/30/2023

I am still shouting and dancing with these verses Isaiah 49:24-26 - In other words, God is telling us here that even when we foolishly get ourselves into a Big xxxx (another word for Big Mess), God will be our Big Solution! Jesus! I love these verses! Y'all don't understand my shout: I have made some pretty stupid decisions back in the day! But God delivered me out of them all!