

God cannot
forget us.

isaiah 49:8-23

Isaiah

1-39: the people in Isaiah's lifetime

40-66: the people in exile (and beyond)

Isaiah 40-55

40: put your hope in God, wait for him,
because he is going to come and redeem you

41-48: God will use Cyrus to bring you back to your land

49-55: God will send his Servant to bring you back to himself

Isaiah 49:8-23

v8-13: what the Servant will ultimately do for those who put their hope in God

v14: the people's response

v15-23: the LORD's answer

What the Servant will do (v8-13)

- a new covenant (v8)
- a new exodus (v9)
- a compassionate Shepherd (v10-11)
- a global flock (v12)

BUT it doesn't always feel like that (v14)

But Zion said,
“The LORD has forsaken me,
the LORD has forgotten me.”

I care and I cannot forget you (v15-16)

I'm so far beyond your
understanding.

Chapter 40

I'm so, so close to you
in love.

Chapter 49

I care and I cannot forget you (v15-16)

v15: more even than a mother

v16: engraved on his hands

- the metaphor
- the reality

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea:
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart.
I know that while in Heav'n he stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

If you wait for me, I will not let you down (v17-23)

The hopeless mother, now surrounded by children

- the people of God corporately
- each of us personally

“The LORD has forsaken me,
the LORD has forgotten me.”

If you put your hope in me...

My cross says
I care and I cannot forget you.

My resurrection says
I will not let you down.

“Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne?

Though she may forget,
I will not forget you!

See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands...

I am the LORD,
those who hope in me will not be disappointed.”