1. **Intro:**

   1.1. Here’s a chapter to **encourage** is people!
   
   1.1.1. It will be a time of **singing** but 1st… Shhhhh… **listen**!

   1.2. **Outline:** 3 Listen to Me’s; & 3 Awake Awake’s!

2. **LISTEN TO ME! (51:1-8)**

   2.1. **PAST!** (1-3)

   2.2. Look to Abraham your father & founder; the rock from which they were cut.

   2.3. I called him alone! – His dad Terah died; Lot took off; Hagar was sent away; Isaac was laid on the altar;… but the fire in Abraham’s heart only grew brighter!
   
   2.3.1. Don’t despair if you are asked to **stand alone** for God!

   2.3.2. “One acorn, when the life of nature touches it, may become parent to a forest!”

   2.4. God blessed Abraham & He would bless Zion!

   2.4.1. This is Jerusalem(Zion) in the millennium when the land of Israel becomes like Eden.

   2.5. Wilderness like Eden – Though once you were an **orphan** & an **outcast**, you now have a **seal** on your forehead, & a **ring** of faithfulness on your finger. You are now a prince/princess to God!

   2.5.1. If he can change a **desert** into a **garden**, then he can make your **barren heart** **sing** **for joy** again!

2.6. **FUTURE!** (4-6)

2.7. (4) In the millennium God’s word & Justice will govern all the nations

2.8. (5) **Resting on His arm!**

   2.8.1. **Q:** What else will you lean on? **Q:** Who else?

   2.8.2. **Q:** Can you bless the hurricane in your life that drove you to Jesus?

   2.8.3. **Collapse in His arms!**

   2.8.4. Show the strong man how strong you are in your **weaknesses**… when underneath are **His everlasting arms**!

   2.8.4.1. **Andre**(Jennifer) holding baby **Lucas** in his one arm after service.
2.9. **PRESENT!** (7,8)
2.10. (7) Don’t fear the insults of men.
2.11. (8) With **God** on our side we are always the **strong majority**!

### 3. **AWAKE, AWAKE!** *(51:9-52:10)*

#### 3.1. **THIS IS THE CALL FOR GOD TO ACT!** *(9-11)*
- **Rahab, & wounded serpent, & made the depths of the sea a road**
- are all speaking of Egypt.

#### 3.2. **GOD WILL ACT!** *(12-16)*
- **God reminds them of His greatness!**
- **He comforts**…So, in whom should you be afraid? (Baby-lonians?)
  - **Believe that God has placed Himself between you & all your enemies; between you & all your circumstances!**
- Q: How are we to **fear** in light of this passage?
- **(13-15) Is not the Creator greater than the Calamity?**
  - **Q: Oh, tempest tossed believer, are you dishonoring your Master by unworthy doubts & fears?**
  - The forces of **evil** are strong, but **God** is stronger.
  - The **clouds** threaten, but the **sun** is shining.
- **(16) God will protect his people! – He’d got you covered!**
  - I picture a boy, the sun reflecting through his magnifying glass, which is aimed at a bug. To protect that bug you interrupt the sun beam with the back of your hand.
  - Result? The **bug** no longer feels the wrath of the sun…but the **hand** takes it all!
  - It speaks of: safety, protection, peace!
- **During the Sepoy mutiny in India**(*Sepoy=Indian soldier under British command*), when a number of English men & women were shut up in a quarter of Cawnpore, expecting a terrible death by **assault** or **slow starvation**, a torn page of the Bible containing **this passage**(vs.16) was found on the street pavement & was of **unspeakable comfort!**
- **You are my people** – that is also the churches hope.
  - This is our **song**, we are **safe** in the shadow of His hand!

#### 3.3. **THE CUP!** *(17-23)*
3.4. **Discipline Time!** *(17-20)*
3.5. **Q: Has it been God that has been lethargic? No, it is His people!**
3.6. Wake yourself!(ESV); Rouse yourself!(NASB)
3.6.1. Why? Because God is about to bless the city!

3.7. (17) Inebriated with sin.
3.7.1. They even drank the Dregs! - small solid particles found in liquids such as coffee or wine that sink to the bottom of a container.

3.8. (17) Picture of a cup! (like drinking a cup of poison, till empty!)
3.9. (18) Picture of a blind woman! (stumbling in the dark)
3.10. (20a) Picture of youth fainting in the streets! (i.e. passed out drunk)
3.11. (20b) Picture of an antelope caught in a net!

3.12. Their time of discipline is over! (21-23)
3.12.1. And never again to drink of that cup!
3.12.2. Jesus talked much about “the cup” – His blood shed, new cov.
   3.12.2.1. We always talk about the Cross representing God’s love (which it does), but equally so.. His Wrath!
3.12.3. Jesus Himself would drink the cup of judgment to the last dregs!

3.13. (21) Drunk but not w/wine – Sounds like Pentecost results(2:15!)
3.13.1. Eph.5:18 “be not drunk w/wine,…but be filled w/the H.S.”
3.13.2. Q: Have you ever been accused of “so walking in the Spirit” that they thought you were drunk?
   3.13.2.1. I remember laughing fits with my friends over something dumb.

3.14. (22) …God, who pleads the cause of His people! –
3.14.1. We forget too often that he pleads are cause(s).
3.14.2. Q: Even when we have sinned against him? Yep!(22b)

3.15. (23) This is wrath transference!

3.16. Lie down that we may walk over you – An allusion to the practice of making captives lie face downward on the ground, & using their backs as a road to walk on.
3.16.1. Saddam – Helmets in streets 2 main entrances of Baghdad. Enemy soldiers were buried feet 1st, helmets exposed for the roads speed bumps.

3.17. REDEEMED! (52:1-10)
3.18. Possibly see vss.1&2 as illustrating a slave bought out of slavery.
3.19. Look at our part! (see verbs/in purple)

3.20. (2) Loose yourself from the bonds of your neck – Take my yoke upon you!
3.20.1. Q: What(or who’s) yoke are you sporting tonight?
3.21. (7) A **redeemed** people should be a **rejoicing** people!

3.22. The clarion call – “Your God reigns!”
   3.22.1. (A timeless cry!) (a message for the whole world)

3.23. How did Paul use this in Rom.10:15?
   3.23.1. Shout the glorious gospel from the mountain tops!

3.24. (8) **Eye to eye** – or, face to face. This is how they will see the Lord when he returns.

3.25. (9) Even the **ruins** are urged to sing for joy! (And there’s many!)

3.26. (10) Missionary document in Embryo!

3.27. (12) I like putting together these 3 verses!
   3.27.1. Jer 18:6 “Look, as the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are **you in My hand**…”
   3.27.2. Is.51:16 “I have **covered you** with the **shadow of My hand**”
   3.27.3. Is.52:12a “the Lord will go **before you**.”
   3.27.4. Is.52:12b “the God of Israel will be your **rear guard**.”