

## *Never put to Shame*

### **Isaiah 50:7-11**

**7 But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. 8 He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. 9 Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. 10 Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God. 11 Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who equip yourselves with burning torches! Walk by the light of your fire, and by the torches that you have kindled! This you have from my hand: you shall lie down in torment.**

In verse 7 the Suffering Servant (Jesus) makes the statement that the Lord God made certain Jesus had not been disgraced or put to shame. That allowed Jesus to “set his face like flint and perfectly perform the mission he had been sent to earth to do. (Luke 9:51) Knowing that the all-powerful God will never leave him, he can totally focus his activities and energy on his calling. Even death is not a disgrace for the Servant, who places His life in the Lord’s hands. (TLSB)

Verse 8 has a courtroom setting in Isaiah with the verdict that Yahweh is in control of history, not idols or Babylonian leaders. The Servant (Jesus) is confident that Yahweh will preside over his case and acquit him in such a way that his opponents will be unable to condemn him. Paul asks the same question as the Servant: “Who is it who condemns me?” (Rom. 8:33-34). The adversary does not stand a chance. The Vindicator” publicly justifies the Servant on Easter, and He, in turn justifies many.

Now in verse 9 using the same words as in 50:7, Jesus reiterates his confidence that “the Lord Yahweh will help me.” This time, though, he adds the emphatic “behold.” Because he is vindicated (50:8), no one will be able to condemn him.

Luther states: “We cannot defend ourselves with human resources, since there is so much malice and impudence on the part of ungodly men. But let us flee for refuge to the strongest tower, the name of the Lord (cf. Prov. 18:10), and there every righteous man will be made to rejoice, and even the dead will be made alive.”

John 16:33 sums it up very well when it says: “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus thank you for taking all of the insults that our sin, have caused and coming out victorious saving us from being put to shame. Amen